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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, what's your level of support for casino gambling on Saipan?

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INSIDE



Next Assignment: Guam

For Cornelio Matanguihan, the best part about living on Saipan for seven years was embracing an easy, uncomplicated life on an island.

Maharlika...Page 10



Mid-Air Explosion

Witnesses on Thursday described seeing the chopper burst into flames and break apart before falling from the sky, killing 30 U.S. troops and eight Afghans.

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Jacko Tribute

Christina Aguilera is lending her voice to a Michael Jackson tribute concert planned for October in Wales.

Life & Style...Page 21

\$15K contract for govt wage survey

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Commerce will be awarding a \$15,000 contract to CNMI-based company, Data Talks, for the conduct and implementation of the CNMI government's 2011 prevailing wage survey.

The government survey is separate from the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's own survey, contracted out to the Guam Employers Council which specializes in extensive services in wage and salary management and prevailing wage surveys.

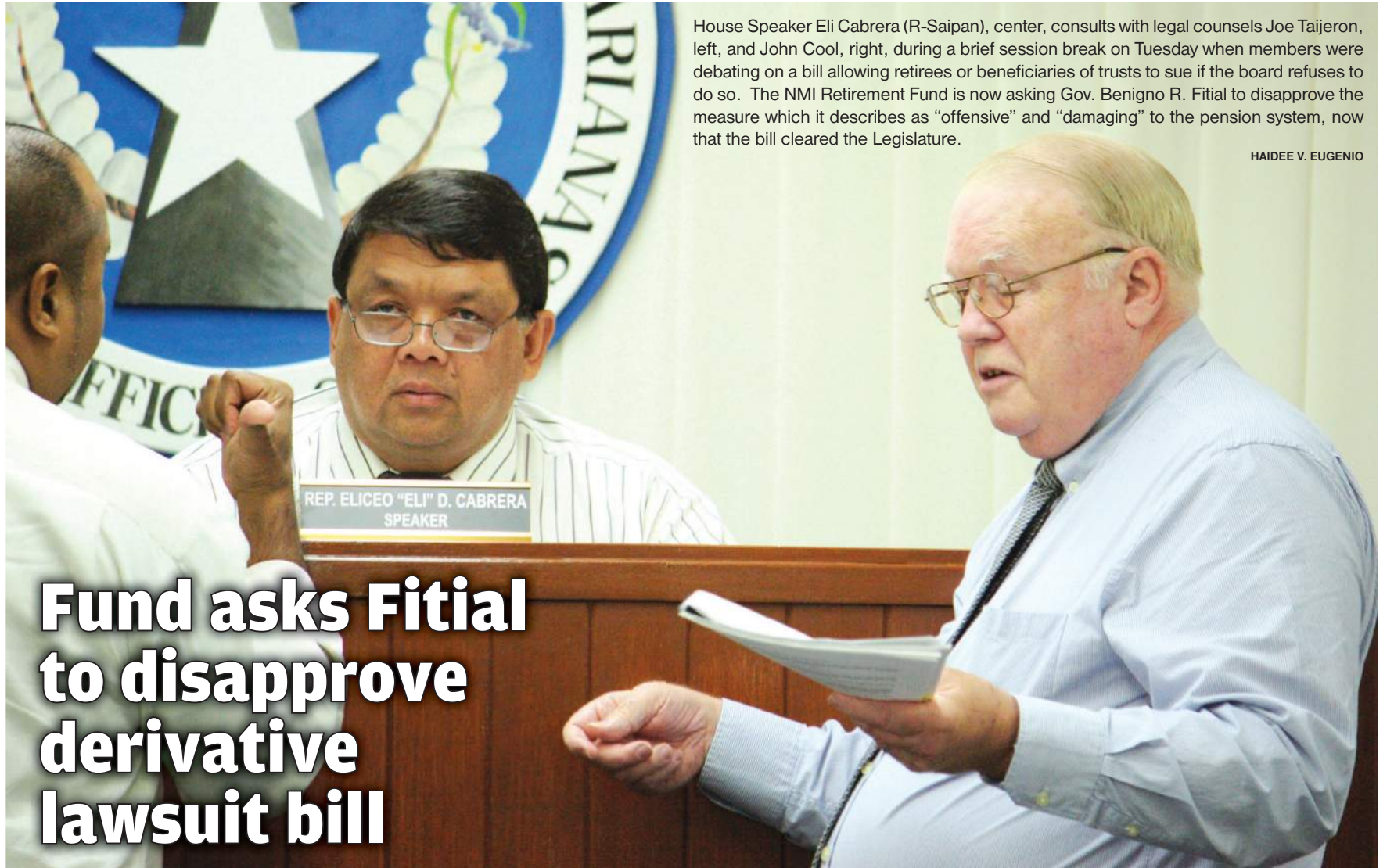
The Chamber's contract with GEC is about the same amount as that awarded

by Commerce to Data Talks.

Acting Commerce secretary Sixto Igisomar said the \$15,000 contract for Data Talks "is being routed."

"Upon completion of contract routing, the contract is expected to finish no later than October to November 2011," Igisomar told *Saipan Tribune* in an email

See \$15K on Page 4



House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), center, consults with legal counsels Joe Tajeron, left, and John Cool, right, during a brief session break on Tuesday when members were debating on a bill allowing retirees or beneficiaries of trusts to sue if the board refuses to do so. The NMI Retirement Fund is now asking Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to disapprove the measure which it describes as "offensive" and "damaging" to the pension system, now that the bill cleared the Legislature.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Fund asks Fitial to disapprove derivative lawsuit bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two days after the House followed the Senate's passage of a bill allowing retirees or beneficiaries of trusts to sue if the board refuses to do so, the NMI Retirement

Fund asked Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to disapprove the measure which it describes as "offensive" and "damaging" to the pension system.

Senate Bill 17-43's latest version was a product of a six-member conference committee formed when the Senate

and House initially couldn't come to an agreement on the measure.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the Fitial administration is still reviewing the bill.

Richard Villagomez, administrator of the Retirement Fund, said the House

passed the bill without allowing the Fund to testify on the measure. He said the Senate also passed the bill earlier without considering the Fund's live testimony explaining the damaging effects of the bill.

"On behalf of all Fund members, we

See FUND on Page 4

Suspension of power disconnections, late fees during payroll delays sought

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives asked Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to request government agencies to suspend power and water disconnections and waive late fees

and penalties on tax payments during instances when the government is delayed in its payroll.

House members asked the governor to request the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to suspend for a period of 10 days any disconnections during partial

payless paydays.

They also asked Fitial to request the Division of Taxation and Revenue and the Division of Customs to suspend for a period of 10 days the late fees, penalties, and interests in the event of delayed government payrolls.

In adopting Speaker Eli Cabrera's (R-Saipan) House Resolution 17-62, the members said many government employees are finding it difficult to make ends meet especially if payrolls are delayed.

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NMC shortens Fall 2011 semester. PAGE 2

Third timely payroll for non-critical government employees. PAGE 3

Local

TO HELP FOREIGN STUDENTS AFFECTED BY F-1 VISA ISSUES

NMC shortens Fall 2011 semester

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To meet the needs of its foreign students, Northern Marianas College president Sharon Hart announced yesterday that the college has adjusted its Fall 2011 schedule by shortening the semester period.

Fall 2011 semester starts on Aug. 22 and traditionally ends in December. With a decision reached yesterday, Hart said the new schedule is from Aug. 22 to Nov. 26—two days before the expiration of the CNMI Depart-

ment of Labor-issued umbrella permit on Nov. 28, 2011. The final examination for the semester is slated on Nov. 21, 22, 23, and 26.

Hart said the decision was reached as a result of the concerns raised by a number of international students who have yet been issued F-1 visa to continue their education on island. The president said that several meetings were held on campus last Wednesday where the ad-



Hart

justment for the semester schedule was concurred by all governance bodies and councils.

Scheduling courses to end prior to the expiration of umbrella permits enables affected students to remain enrolled at NMC, according to the president.

She also emphasized that the adjustment is only for the Fall 2011 semester and which the college will return to the traditional schedule in Spring 2012

semester.

Hart, who became emotional during yesterday's interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said she was deeply touched by the group of students who came forward and pleaded for help. Immediately, she said, emergency meetings were called to see how the college could be of help to its "customers." Hart also called a media press conference yesterday where at least seven students were in attendance.

The president assured that the shorter term will not affect the number of courses or the variety

of programs offered by NMC. No credits will be lost because it will lengthen meeting times for all classes by 10-30 minutes. Hart emphasized that the "new schedule was developed to ensure that members of the community who have legal status to remain in the CNMI through the expiration of CNMI-issued umbrella permits have the opportunity to enroll in courses during the upcoming term."

Hart said NMC has worked closely with students affected by U.S. Public Law 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, since December 2009 to facilitate transitions of ongoing students into F-1 Student Visa status prior to the Fall 2011 term in anticipation of the expiration of CNMI-issued umbrella permits on November 28, 2011.

Dean of students services Leo Pangelinan, for his part, said the new schedule also ensures the college maintains compliance with federal regulations and college policy with regard to enrollment of international students, and in keeping with the best interest of all NMC students.

Because classes will be shortened by three weeks, both Hart and Pangelinan believe that it would also bring some savings to the college in terms of energy consumption and other services.

Hart disclosed that college officials spent hours of working out the solution, and stayed late Wednesday on campus to review the over 200 courses and recalculate the new time hours for every one of these courses. *Saipan Tribune* learned that a three-credit course requires 45 hours of classes in a given semester.

"Our goal is to ensure that our college is an open door for our students," she said, adding that NMC always puts "customers" first on its top agenda.

A large number of affected students

Although registration for the new semester has yet to start, both Hart and Pangelinan believe that there maybe a large group of international students who are being affected by the same visa issue and thus encourage them to come in so they could be assisted.

Hart said besides the 12 nursing students who approached her on their concerns, a group of about 10 other students came earlier airing the same problem.

According to Pangelinan, international students represent approximately 22 percent of the college population. He said the adjustment on the semester schedule is beneficial not only to the students affected, but it will also drive enrollment for NMC.

Yesterday, Pangelinan admitted that an email inquiry was received by the college from USCIS office inquiring about the students concern and other issues related to federal immigration. A response is being prepared as of yesterday. NMC will also try to arrange a meeting with the USCIS officials for further discussion.

Meantime, NMC emphasized that students with a valid CNMI-issued umbrella permit through Nov. 28 will be eligible to register and enroll during the Fall 2011 semester. Students who register with an umbrella permit will be required to make full payment for tuition and fees no later than Aug. 26, 2011 to maintain their enrollment.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan**. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
 - a. Personnel & Budget
 - b. Update - Telephone System
 - c. Update - Travel Policy
- IV. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**
 - a. CDBG Status Reports
 - b. FY 2011 CDBG Proposals
- V. **MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM**
 - a. Loan Status Reports by Programs / Delinquency & Litigation Report
 - b. Buy-back RD Loans Status Report
 - c. NSP Status Report
 - d. Lease-To-Own of NMHC Properties
 - e. REO Purchase
 - f. MPLT Accounts at BoH Update
 - g. BankPacific Status Report
 - h. HOME Loans for Approval
 - i. USDA RD new MOU
 - j. Other Loan Matters
- VI. **PROGRAM & HOUSING**
 - a. Section 8 New Construction Program: Liyo Status Report
 - b. Section 8 Status Reports by Location: Saipan/Tinian/Rota
 - c. Voucher Program Status Report by Location: Saipan/Tinian/Rota
- VII. **FIELD OFFICE REPORTS**
 - a. Tinian
 - b. Rota
- VIII. **FISCAL AFFAIRS**
 - a. Fiscal Year 2008 & 2009 Audited Financial Statement Status
 - b. NMHC Current Fiscal Year Financial Statement: Funds Availability & Cash Forecast Report as of June 30, 2011
 - c. Amended Budget for FY 2012
 - d. Employees Accounts Receivable Status Report
 - e. BoH Reserve Account
 - f. Outstanding Receivable for BoH Non-MPLT and MPLT Accounts
 - g. HUD Grants Status Report
- IX. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- X. **OTHER MATTERS**
 - a. LIHTC Status Report
 - b. LIHTC Evaluations
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

House to honor Ruth Coleman

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ruth A. Coleman, the former executive officer of the CNMI Veterans Affairs Office, will be honored by House members for her exemplary service and numerous contributions to the Commonwealth and its people.



Coleman

Coleman has recently resigned from her position to work for the veterans health administration which is part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

In a resolution prefiled by Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), she recognized and commended the former veterans affairs official for her commitment and dedication to service.

It was in 2006 when Coleman was certified in training, responsibility, involvement, and preparation of veterans affairs claims by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In the same year, she was appointed the executive officer of NMI Veterans Affairs Office where she managed and supervised all programs relating to veterans benefits and health, planned and directed all operations of the veterans cemetery, and coordinated all military and department of defense activities within the Commonwealth. She also wrote legislation, interpreted applications of the law and was well versed in public relations.

The resolution stated that despite her overwhelming duties, Coleman still managed to volunteer and serve in numerous committees and organizations.

"It would be extremely difficult to find a person with similar compassion and devotion to her country and public service, like that of Ms. Coleman, a woman who has dedicated her life to her country and to the residents, most especially to U.S. military personnel and veterans of the CNMI," stated the resolution, adding that Coleman has meaningfully served the people of the CNMI for 11 years.

Coleman attended Mount Carmel School and Marianas High School before she moved to Guam. After completing high school she enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1978 and began her career in the service.

She also attended numerous programs and received certificates of completion for various trainings in different fields.

Coleman received her associates of applied science in metals technology from the College of the Air Force; associates of applied science instructor technology from the College of the Air Force. In 1998, Coleman retired from U.S. Air Force after 20 years of exemplary and praiseworthy military service.

Third timely payroll for non-critical government employees

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For at least the third time this year, non-critical government employees got their paychecks on time on Thursday and Friday along with those holding so-called critical government positions.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that besides collecting enough money to cover for the biweekly payroll, the timely payroll for all employees was also because of the central government's up-to-date payments to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The central government used

to make weekly payments of \$250,000 to CUC to pay its arrears. The central government utility payment does not include those of the Public School System and Northern Marianas College.

Since June 2010, the government has been delayed in its payroll for non-critical employees because of limited cash in

government bank accounts and other obligations that need to be met first, including hospital and utilities needs.

Non-critical service employees usually receive their paychecks on the Wednesday right after their supposed Friday payday.

Most of the employees subjected to delayed payrolls are also

dealing with a 16-hour work cut biweekly and unpaid holidays as part of the Fitial administration's cost cutting measures.

Only critical government employees such as doctors, nurses, firefighters and corrections officers, as well as federal-funded employees are being paid on time.

Co-defendant of ex-Sgt. Tagabuel in insurance scam pleads guilty

» **ICE agents handcuffed defendant as soon as he stepped out from the courtroom**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Serafin Amog Esperancilla, a co-defendant of former police sergeant Hillary John Tagabuel in a car insurance scam case, pleaded guilty yesterday in the Superior Court.

Esperancilla, a Filipino, was given a suspended sentence, but as soon as he stepped out from the courtroom, two Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents handcuffed him and brought him to the ICE office.

Esperancilla, alias Raffy, appeared in court with his counsel, assistant public defender Matt Meyer.

The defendant signed a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit theft by deception, and theft by deception.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced Esperancilla to six years in prison, all suspended except 10 days.

Esperancilla was given 10 days for the time he already served in jail. It means he will no longer serve jail term in the insurance scam case.

Govendo placed the defendant on six years of probation.

The judge said pursuant to the plea agreement, the defendant agreed to testify truthfully in the trial of another co-defendant, Yu Jai Feng Cepeda.

Govendo said after the trial of Cepeda, Esperancilla is going to depart the CNMI.

Under the plea agreement, Govendo said, Esperancilla will not oppose removal proceedings against him in the Immigration Court.

Govendo ordered the defendant to pay a \$500 fine, plus court costs and probation fee.

Esperancilla was ordered to pay restitution to the victims in an amount to be determined by the Office of Adult Probation. He was required to perform 100 hours of community work service.

The prosecution said that on Oct. 29, 2007 to January 2008, Esperancilla along with Tagabuel and Cepeda agreed to file false insurance claims against Century Insurance and Aon Insurance by falsifying information about car crashes to obtain money from the insurance companies.

Court records show that Esperancilla also figured in a vehicular accident in 2001 in As Terlaje that according to Royal

Crown Insurance was highly questionable. He and businessman Bernardo A. Hiponia sued the insurance company for rejecting their insurance claims.

In 2005, a Superior Court jury found Royal Crown liable to pay over \$120,000 in damages to Esperancilla and Hiponia. Then associate judge Juan T. Lizama later reduced the award from \$120,000 to \$106,000.

Citing some irregularities, including that the damaged portions to both vehicles do not support a head-on collision, the insurance company appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court.

The CNMI Supreme Court in 2010 affirmed all of the damages awarded by the trial court. The high court reversed some of the litigation costs that Lizama awarded the plaintiffs as they

were not allowed by Commonwealth statute.

In June 2008, the Office of the Attorney General charged Esperancilla and co-defendants over the insurance scam.

A detective said Tagabuel admitted forging a total of 41 traffic crash reports.

Last Aug. 1, Tagabuel pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit theft by deception, and to assault and battery, criminal mischief in a domestic violence case.

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Type	Rate	
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Type	Adult Rate	Junior Rate
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Private Series (Four 1-Hour Lessons)	\$ 255.00	\$ 150.00
Private Lesson and Analysis	\$ 150.00	\$ 80.00
Playing Lessons (Nine Holes)	\$ 175.00	\$ 105.00
Short Term Junior Camps		
Type	Duration	
Residential Full Service (Includes: Board, English & Mandarin Lessons, PGA Golf Training, and Meals)	1 Week: \$ 1,100.00 2 Weeks: \$ 2,000.00 3 Weeks: \$ 2,800.00 4 Weeks: \$ 3,500.00	
Miscellaneous		
Type	Rate	
Club Fitting	\$ 50.00	
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Intoxicated teenager who attacked taxi drivers at Hyatt gets 4-month jail term

Superior Court associate judge Perry B. Inos has imposed a four-month jail term on a teenager, who, while intoxicated, reportedly assaulted three taxi drivers with a knife and a rock at Hyatt Regency Saipan's parking lot.

Inos sentenced 18-year-old Johnny

Ezra to five years in prison, all suspended except four months, for attempted aggravated assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Inos gave Ezra credit for the 91 days he already served in jail.

After completing the jail term, the teenager will be placed on probation

for two years. He was ordered to pay a \$500 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, and \$100 probation fee.

The judge ordered Ezra to write letters of apology to the taxi drivers—Mostafa Kamal, Mohammed Mostafa Kamal, and Quazi Hasanul Karim.

The Office of the Attorney Gen-

eral charged Ezra with assault with a dangerous weapon, attempted aggravated assault and battery, assault, disturbing the peace, and minor consuming alcohol.

Ezra and his counsel signed a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to attempted aggravat-

ed assault and battery. In exchange, the government dismissed the remaining charges.

Police said that on May 2, 2011, Ezra, while intoxicated, assaulted the three taxi drivers with a knife and a rock at Hyatt's parking lot. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

UOG to offer CPA review program

MANGILAO, Guam—The University of Guam in partnership with Becker Professional Education will offer the Becker US CPA Exam Review Program at the UOG campus this fall. The two organizations signed a three-year agreement in July 2011.

"This is an exciting opportunity

for Guam residents who want to earn their CPA designation," said Dr. Anita Borja-Enriquez, dean of the School of Business and Public Administration. "This partnership provides an affordable pathway for individuals to prepare to take the CPA exam, which is the preeminent certification for accounting

professionals, and earn graduate accounting credits necessary towards US CPA licensure. Today, CEOs prefer to hire certified public accountants to oversee finances so this is an ideal opportunity for UOG graduates with degrees in accounting and finance to take their professional skills to the next level."

The Becker US CPA Exam Review

Program includes four parts. Upon registration and payment at UOG, Becker will ship course materials directly to the students. The agreement with Becker provides participants with a significant discount on the course and exam preparation materials.

Before the CPA Review Program begins, University of Guam faculty will first complete the mandatory

Becker training course. Training for faculty with CPAs will be held today. Once they complete the training and are approved to teach by Becker Professional Education, the Becker CPA Review Program schedule will be announced.

For more information, contact Lillian Chargualaf at 671- 735-2550. (*UOG*)

STEP UP

Students of Northern Marianas College's Step Up Program pose for a photo. The program provides short-term research education for high school students from racial and ethnic minority to expose them to research within mission area of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Program. The students are leaving Tuesday for Washington D.C. at the expense of NIDDK. From left, Genevieve Gottwald, teacher Florita Cabanes, Chasy Amado, Richeena Farrel, Claudette San Nicholas, Mariah Barcinas, and Dr. De Torres.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



FUND

From Page 1

beg you to disapprove this bill," Villagomez told the governor.

In his five-page letter, Villagomez reiterated the damages that he said SB 17-43 will have on the Retirement Fund, including increased cost of doing business because of added litigation and damaging the reputation of the CNMI which will be perceived as being a hostile business environment.

He said investment consultant and money managers will likely cancel their contracts with the Fund because of ad-

ditional risk of potentially being sued by people not parties to the contract.

"As one of our money managers explained to us after reading about SB 17-43 in the news, 'you are changing the rules in the middle of the game'," Villagomez said.

He also cited financial damage in the form of opportunity cost as a result of investment consultant and money managers canceling contracts.

Villagomez said if no firm is willing to contract with the Fund to manage its assets, the Fund would be forced to liquidate its portfolio and move those funds to savings accounts or certificates of deposits.

"The estimated opportunity cost of being out of the markets for an extended period is \$9 million per year," Villagomez told the governor.

He said businesses providing services, such as the Group Health or life insurance providers, will more than likely reconsider contracting with the Fund and if they do, they may very well increase their costs to the Fund.

In his letter to the governor, Villagomez cited examples of possible lawsuits that SB 17-43 would allow.

For example, a member could sue his neighbor because the neighbor receives a disability annuity but is fre-

quently seen mowing his or her yard, and therefore the member does not believe the neighbor is disabled and thus is harming the Fund by receiving an "undeserved" benefit.

He also said a spouse of a Fund member could sue the contractor that painted the Fund building, alleging that too much was paid or the color was not right.

"This bill, if enacted, will make it very difficult for the Fund to find any party that would be willing to enter into a contract, because the party would be responsible not only for satisfying the board of trustees, but all 20,000 potential intended beneficiaries of the Fund, in all aspects of performance of its contract," the Fund administrator said.

He also cited uneven retroactive application, and three specific offensive provisions including Sections 102, 105 and 106.

Villagomez said special interest legislation of this sort should not be

entertained.

"The Fund gave in and heeded the Legislature's request to sue Merrill Lynch and will vigorously pursue a recovery. What other reason could there be for this legislation to proceed?" he added.

Floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) said during Tuesday's House session that considering the bill should be considered moot because the Fund has already sued its former investment consultant, Merrill Lynch.

Some retirees filed a lawsuit in October 2009 against Merrill Lynch, along with the Fund trustees, for providing "bad advice" to the trustees, resulting in the collapse of its stock investments.

They have since asked the Fund to join the lawsuit against Merrill Lynch, to no avail until June 2011 when the Fund filed a counter-complaint against its former investment consultant.

\$15K

From Page 1

response.

Igisomar said the survey is expected to start soon.

Under the contract's scope of work, Data Talks will coordinate and assist in the implementation and completion of the 2011 prevailing wage survey.

This includes the survey methodology, instrument training, and development of accountability procedures for use by Commerce's Central Statistics Division and the Department of Labor in handling the prevailing wage survey.

Data Talks is also to develop and implement the prevailing wage survey for use by Labor, as well as extract data for

Commerce's CSD for a job inventory survey data base.

"It is the government's duty to conduct this survey and provide results to the public. However, again, absent a prevailing wage, the Chamber may decide to conduct their own," Igisomar added.

Commerce earlier said its Central Statistics Division will be visiting all businesses in the CNMI by mid- to late August to conduct a prevailing wage survey. The department has asked the patience and cooperation of all businesses.

The department said its prevailing wage survey is similar, if not the same, as the ongoing survey that the Saipan Chamber of Commerce is conducting.

"However, the PWS of CSD will capture business information on business inventories, expenses, job inven-

tory, and so on, to support data availability for the CNMI's Gross Domestic Product reports," Commerce said.

The Fitial administration is still awaiting the results of its \$40,701.99 grant application with the U.S. Department of Labor for the prevailing wage survey.

But the administration said with or without the grant, they will move forward with the survey.

The Chamber, for its part, bagged a \$16,150 technical assistance grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior for the conduct of its own 2011 survey of wages, salaries, and benefits.

The survey results can be used to establish prevailing wage rate determinations for CNMI employers applying for federal employment visas for existing and future foreign workers.

SUSPENSION

From Page 1

They said the high costs of utilities such as power and water are adding to the burden faced by government employees who also have to contend with delayed payrolls and 16-hour work cuts every two weeks.

Since June 2010, the government has been having difficulty paying its non-critical employees on time. This year

alone, the government has so far made only three timely payroll for these employees because of cash shortfall and the need to prioritize other expenses such as hospital supplies and utility payments.

"The members of the House of Representatives will continue to work with the administration on legislation in finding additional and new resources that will greatly assist our Commonwealth out of this economic depression," the members said.

Co-owner of defunct remittance center argues charges untimely filed

Haydn L. Villegas, a co-owner of a defunct remittance center who has been indicted for his role in the alleged conspiracy to defraud a Philippine bank, has argued that the charges were untimely filed and therefore warrant dismissal.

Villegas, through counsel G. Anthony Long, said the five-year limitations period applies to the case and that the last act in furtherance of the conspiracy occurred more than five years prior to filing of the indictment against him.

In Villegas' motion to dismiss, Long asserted that pursuant to a statute, the 10-year limitations period does not apply to a conspira-

cy which affects a foreign bank.

The 10-year limitation period, the lawyer said, applies to a conspiracy which affects an agency or branch of a foreign bank.

"The 10-year statute of limitations is inapplicable to the conspiracy charge against Haydn (Villegas) as the indictment does not allege and can not be construed as alleging that the conspiracy affected an agency or branch of a foreign bank," Long said.

Villegas is the co-owner of the defunct Philippine Express Remittance who allegedly defrauded the Philippine National Bank of about \$109,855. He is charged with conspiracy to commit wire fraud. He has pleaded not guilty.

According to the indictment, the scheme to defraud Philippine National Bank began in November 2004 when Villegas and his wife, Ana Maria, started passing checks drawn on insufficient funds at PNB Express.

PNB Express was then a subsidiary of Philippine National Bank.

In the motion to dismiss, Long said according to the in-

dictment, Philippine National Bank is a foreign bank located in the Philippines.

Long said the indictment then asserts that PNB Corp. is a subsidiary of PNB during business on Saipan as PNB Foreign Exchange.

He said PNB Exchange is in the business of collecting cash or check "remittances" from customers and then transmitting those collected funds to overseas recipients as directed by paying customers of Philippine Express Remittance.

Pursuant to the indictment, Long said, the purpose of the conspiracy was to defraud PNB.

Long said the indictment does not allege that PNB is "financial institution."

He said a foreign bank is not a financial institution for purposes of a statute.

"For the 10-year limitations period to apply the conspiracy in this case had to affect an agency or branch of PNB," Long said.

The lawyer said the conspiracy alleged in this case does not and did not affect an agency or branch of PNB.

Long noted that the last act alleged which concerns obtaining money from PNB by a fraudulent scheme occurred on or about May 13, 2005.

He said Villegas' filing for bankruptcy in October 2005, therefore, occurred about five months after completion of the conspiracy's main objective and

therefore was not in furtherance of the conspiracy.

Long said the conspiracy ended upon the closing of Philippine Remittance Express on Oct. 11, 2005. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Coast Guard, Navy to conduct training on Cetti, Tipalao and Agat Bays

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Coast Guard will conduct training on Cetti Bay and Tipalao Bay on the following dates and times:

- Aug. 16 from 6:30pm to 10pm
- Aug. 23 from 6:30pm to 10pm
- Aug. 30-31 from 6:30pm to 10pm

The general location of the training on Cetti Bay will extend

from 13-19°N and 144-39°E. The general location of the training on Tipalao Bay will extend from 13-25°N and 144-38.5°E.

The general public especially fisherman, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The Navy will conduct training on Agat Bay Underwater Detonation Site on Aug. 17-18 from noon to 4pm. The Agat

Bay detonation position is 13-23-00N/144-35-00E. Underwater detonation operations require no vessel traffic or personnel within a 700 yard radius of the detonation position.

The general public is advised to stay clear from this area during the times and dates indicated.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-3209. **(PR)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at FDM set

The Emergency Management Office, Office of the Governor, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Force Marianas (N3) Guam, would like to inform the general public that the U.S. Military unit would be conducting military exercises on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla on the following dates and times:

- Aug. 15, 9am-11pm, 20EBS
- Aug. 17, 7am-11pm, 20 EBS
- Aug. 19, 7am-6pm, 20 EBS

The general locations for this activity will on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla training area (R7201) on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants and due to the danger imposed by this activity, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is advising the general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated. The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Emergency Management Office, Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF Marine CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. **(PR)**

Chacha Jr. High School 7-8 graders orientation on Sept. 2

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that Chacha Ocean View Jr. High School will be having an orientation for 7th and 8th grade students on Sept. 2, 2011 from 9:30am to 10:30am in the cafeteria. Please call the school at 237-3921 or 664-4100 if you have any question or concerns. **(PR)**

Start of school at Green Meadow on Aug. 15

School year 2011-2012 at Green Meadow School starts on Monday, Aug. 15, both at its Chalan Kiya campus and Gualo Rai center. Enrollment is still ongoing for kindergarten and grade school. For inquiry or information, please call 234-0898 or 235-2185 and ask for Mila or Loida. **(PR)**

NMC Adult Basic Education seeks instructors

The Northern Marianas College's Division of Community Programs and Services' Adult Basic Education (ABE) program is currently seeking qualified individuals to teach courses for the upcoming Fall 2011 semester.

The courses offered by ABE include Pre-General Educational Development (GED) or GED courses in reading, writing, science, social studies, mathematics, and English as a Second Language (ESL). ABE is a federally funded program focused on meeting the educational needs of adult learners in the CNMI.

Those interested in teach-

ing courses at ABE can visit the NMC Human Resources Office in Building P at the As Terlaje campus. Required documents may be submitted to Human Resources and a copy forwarded to the ABE office for review. These documents include an updated résumé, an official record of college diploma and transcript, business license with tax identification card, valid passport or driver's license with social security card, and a police clearance.

For more information, contact the NMC Human Resources Office at 234-5498 ext. 1017 or visit HRO in Building P at the NMC As Terlaje campus. **(NMC)**

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

History can be repeated

For Americans of a certain age, television footage of the last week's riots in Britain's urban centers looks familiar.

Memories spring to mind of Philadelphia in 1964, the Watts area of Los Angeles in 1965, Detroit and Newark in 1967, and Los Angeles again in 1992. The circumstances that ignited those riots then and the ones in England now are also similar, as is the rampant looting that followed.

London's riots broke out after a man of African Caribbean descent said to be a gang member was shot and killed by police. Police initially claimed Mark Duggan, 29, shot at them first. But an investigation has revealed that the Italian-made pistol Duggan carried had not been fired.

Just as it was with the earlier U.S. riots, however, the violence that has spread from London to Birmingham to Manchester isn't just about a member of a minority group becoming a victim of overzealous police. The riots also express the frustration of a part of society that feels it has been unfairly consigned to poverty.

Looters aren't even trying to hide their faces from TV cameras. Many feel no shame in stealing what they believe they are owed for suffering the punishing lack of economic opportunity that strangles their ambitions. Of course, others are just taking advantage of the situation to steal.

"This is criminality, pure and simple, and it has to be confronted and defeated," said British Prime Minister David Cameron. And he's mostly right. Criminals should receive swift and certain punishment. But, as others note, the underlying economic and educational deficiencies that fertilize riots also must be addressed.

In Britain, more than a million people between the ages of 16 and 24 are unemployed. Many of these young people have dropped out of schools where teachers are focusing on those students who have a greater likelihood of meeting educational goals. Does that sound familiar, too?

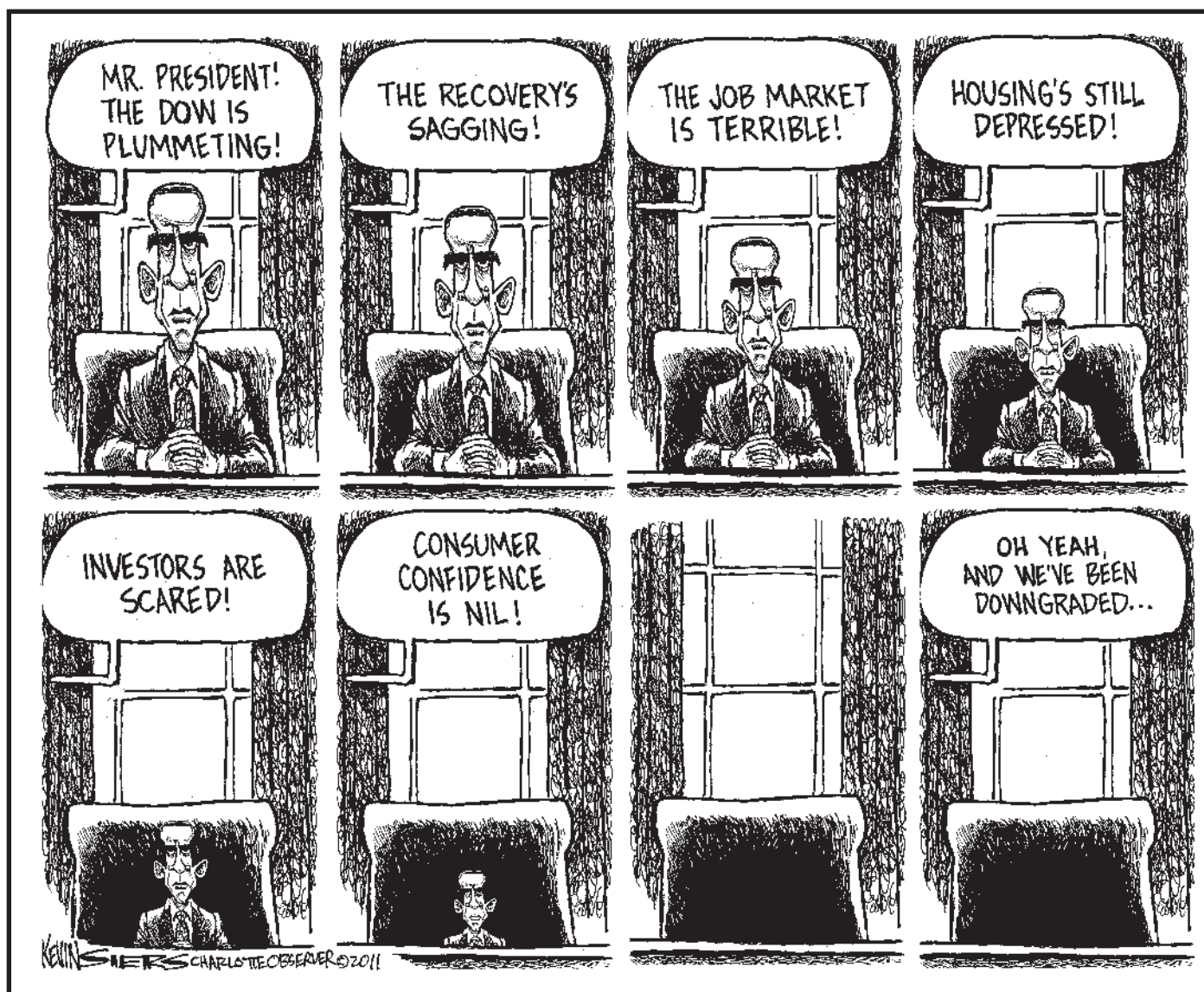
In this country, public officials in particular must take more than a passing interest in the British riots. Conditions in too many poor American communities today are as bad as or worse than they were in the 1960s, when all it took was the right spark—typically a racially tinged confrontation with police—to set off days of rioting.

It is especially important to remember the past as some members of Congress act as if there would be no consequences to blithely shredding the safety net that began with Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal. Federal spending can be reduced without making the most vulnerable Americans take a crippling hit.

In urban neighborhoods across America, where unemployment is high and frustration is higher, it is clear that the ingredients for a riot do exist. All it takes is a spark. Then it won't be looters in Britain being broadcast on TV.

The Kerner Commission on civil disorders said in 1968 that rioters, "rather than rejecting the American system ... were anxious to obtain a place for themselves in it." That so many still lack that "place" is discouraging.

(c) 2011, The Philadelphia Inquirer.



In Belarus, laughing at tyranny

A tattered group of rebels fights fitfully against the eccentric dictator Moammar Gadhafi in Libya. In Syria, a serious confrontation continues between gutsy demonstrators and what is essentially a police state.

But farther north in Eastern Europe, with little coverage by the press, imaginative young people are showing a special kind of bravery as they challenge one of the most brutal dictators in the world.

The place is Belarus, a nation of 10 million, directly to the west of Russia, that was once part of the Soviet Union. The dictator is Alexander Lukashenko, president since 1994. And what the young people are doing is challenging that dictatorship with humor, sarcasm and nonviolent but highly visible demonstrations.

Their tactics are right out of the playbook used effectively by regime opponents in the old communist satellite countries when they lived under the heel of Soviet oppression.

My father was Hungarian, and when I was growing up, my uncles and grandparents would tell me what life under Soviet rule was like for those still living in Hungary. They told me about ways people invented to oppose the regime without appearing to cross the line of overt activity deemed "criminal" that would lead to arrest and imprisonment. One tool they devised was not to go to the movies. Sounds like an unlikely form of protest, doesn't it? Yet in the early days of communist rule, all the movie houses were state-owned and state-run. To protest something the state had done, a friend might come up to you and say: "I'm not going to the movies this weekend, I'm really too busy."

What about you?" If you were slow on the uptake, they might go on to tell you that two neighbors were unwell, and three others had to visit relatives out of town—and therefore none of them would be able to go to the movies, either. Word spread quickly, and when the weekend came, a remarkable thing happened. Every movie theater in a given town or region—and once or twice, I'm told, in the entire country—was empty. The signal to the regime was clear, but there was no crime and no offender.

How could the police arrest someone for not going to the movies? The protesters in Belarus today are organizing in the same tradi-

By **PETER GOLDMARK**
Newsday

Peter Goldmark, a former publisher of the International Herald Tribune, headed the climate program at the Environmental Defense Fund. He wrote this for Newsday.



tion, but with a more daring sense of theater. Beaming, cheering crowds have appeared recently, apparently expressing approval of Lukashenko and his government. Occasionally the demonstrators have even burst into laughter—and that, a reporter for the Italian paper La Repubblica reported, was so infectious that sometimes even the police joined in.

It takes guts to confront a regime that's been termed the last outpost of total tyranny in Europe. But that's what the brave people of Belarus are doing.

The regime, which has jailed more than a thousand political activists so far this year, has not failed to understand that the "applause" and "cheering" were sarcastic and, in fact, represented visible, popular-based criticism of the government.

So what did the Belarusian government leaders do? They made it a crime to applaud the president, his troops or the security services. For the country's Independence Day celebrations in July, the government announced that anyone caught clapping would be arrested.

Like the movements now dubbed Arab Spring, the Belarusian opposition relies heavily on social-networking websites for instant communication.

And the unrest in Belarus is fueled by economic problems as well as the drive for political freedom. The economy, which is 70 percent state-owned, is slumping badly, and Belarus has applied to the International Monetary Fund for emergency financial aid.

It takes guts to confront a regime that's been termed the last outpost of total tyranny in Europe. But that's what the brave people of Belarus are doing. While our freely elected representatives were stumbling through the latest minuet in the tawdry debt-deadline drama, the demonstrators in Belarus were risking their lives for the right to have freely elected representatives in the first place.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

After the gold rush in Peru

By **HEATHER WILLIAMS**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Seventeen thousand feet above sea level, at the top of the Lake Titicaca basin in Peru, the gray-black slopes sparkle with tiny flakes of gold.

Each day, 40,000 people with pickaxes and crude hydraulic drills work the shaft mines of La Rinconada. An additional few thousand toil in teams sifting sand in an open pit mine at the headwaters of the lake’s principal tributary.

A gold rush is on in this part of the Andes. New fortunes are made by a few, while many others toil amid mass squalor. Late-model 4x4s and half-million-dollar earthmovers navigate dirt roads past slums of corrugated metal shacks. There is little government to speak of here: Families melt snow from their roofs for water, cook with canisters of gas and light their homes with kerosene lamps. Dogs ransack piles of garbage that line the mud paths from the shacks to the mines. The cemetery is a riot of color, with plastic flowers covering fresh graves.

With gold at \$1,600 an ounce, many in the region, one of Peru’s poorest, work the mines for a gram or two of the mineral a week. It is grueling work. Tiny bits of gold in the low-grade ore are teased from hard rock with mallets or crude crushing machines, then refined with toxic mercury in an unventilated house or a corner store.

In the adjacent open-pit mine, teams of men dredge the Ramis River to a depth of 900 feet or more, leaving the topsoil, waste rock and tailings in piles to be washed away by the river. The pit is massive. When I was there in June with a group of my students, I measured it with a GPS at about eight miles long and more than a mile across.

Mining in the area is largely off the books and unregulated. Two large corporations, including one that is state-run, have operations in the area, but the actual extraction is done by “artisanal” miners

working for cooperatives. It’s difficult to decipher who exactly controls the cooperatives, but they are generally operated by people with enough money to buy equipment and enough clout to win contracts. Locals say strongmen control different areas of the pit, hiring workers who toil for the chance to occasionally take home what they find in a day. It’s a chaotic, corrupt and brutal place.

The miner who agreed to accompany my students and me this year insisted that this open-pit method of mining was “all natural, without chemicals.” But soil samples I took and had analyzed told a different story. They indicated that the waste contained very high levels of arsenic, elevated amounts of lead and detectable levels of mercury.

Soon after open-pit mining began in this basin about seven years ago, sheep and cattle began to die. Downstream, farmers say that since the mining began nothing has been the same. One elderly woman who lived alone in her house on the mountain began to cry as she told me about how her herd of eight dairy cattle died after the river turned opaque with mine waste. Other women in the same community described the death of the river: First the fish died, they said, then the birds went away, then the frogs. Today, they said, not even the smallest creatures, the butterflies and aquatic insects, live along the river.

Much has been made of the leftist credentials of Peru’s new president, Ollanta Humala. Pundits have speculated about whether he will govern more like Venezuela’s mercurial Hugo Chavez or more moderately, like Brazil’s former president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

But Humala’s biggest challenge during his five-year term may be less one of ideology than of practicality. In this mineral-endowed nation—currently the world’s sixth-largest exporter of gold—one crucial question is whether the president will be able to rein in the chaos in places like La Rinconada, balancing the demands of min-

ing with environmental concerns and the needs of the poor.

Protests by various groups over pollution and mining rights have rocked the region. In May and June, tens of thousands of indigenous people occupied Peru’s southeastern border checkpoints and its main highways for weeks on end. A five-day occupation of the region’s capital, Puno, culminated in arson and widespread damage. Another protest at the region’s main airport ended in gunfire, with six dead and scores of people wounded.

The protesters’ demands up to now have been fragmented. Some groups are demanding a cleanup of the Ramis River. Others want the government to declare a municipal water recharge area off limits to mining. Still others have called for the departure of multinational corporations from the region or for a bigger share of the revenues from mining taxes. Finally, and most ominously, there are groups among the protesters who want to clear the region of formal mines to make way for off-the-books, unregulated mining.

Without adequate legal protections, Peruvians whose lands and water are destroyed by mine pollution are left with no alternative but to work in the mines themselves or to fight back with militant collective action.

What the Humala administration must do in the next five years is to make it clear that no mining operation, big or small, is beyond the law. He must break with the practice of dealing with mining conflicts on an ad hoc basis and instead work with the Peruvian legislature to write regulatory and environmental statutes that make citizens part of the enforcement process. By making information about mining and water quality public and providing greater power of injunction against polluters, Humala can make it possible for Peruvians to stop dangerous mines before they threaten lives and ecosystems.

Heather Williams is a professor of politics at Pomona College. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Mexican immigration surprise

By **LAURA MARTINEZ**
NEWSDAY

Last December, during a flight I took between Newark, N.J., and Mexico City, a middle-age Mexican man walked to the back of the cabin asking assistance to fill out the customs entry forms required by his government. The man didn’t know how to read or write, he explained, so he was asking the flight attendant to fill out the forms for him. She kindly complied.

“How long do you plan to stay in Mexico?” the flight attendant asked him in perfect Spanish.

“I’m staying there forever. I’m not coming back,” he said. “I miss my family, and there are no more jobs for us here.”

This exchange stayed with me for quite some time, mostly because I found it hard to imagine being 50-plus years old and not being able to read or write. But I was also struck by the certainty in which the man stressed the “us” (“nosotros”) part in explaining the lack of jobs to be found “here” (“aca”).

I thought about this man again this week, after learning that—according to the Mexican Migration Project, a collaborative research project between Princeton University and the University of Guadalajara—Mexicans’ interest in heading to the United States has fallen

to its lowest level since at least the 1950s. And that wasn’t all. In addition to a decline in new undocumented immigration, the project has also found a significant increase of Mexicans returning home.

The explanations for this are varied: The pool of potential migrants is shrinking as Mexican families become smaller; crossing the border is increasingly expensive and dangerous; jobs are scarce. Also relevant is that more states are passing draconian anti-immigrant laws.

Undocumented workers in states like Arizona, Utah, North Carolina, Alabama and South Carolina, have begun to flee, fearing deportation or—worse—incarceration. And while it’s true many of these workers are moving to other states, many others are going home.

Why? Apparently—and despite the many horrors we read about every day involving Mexico’s increasing violence amid a bloody war on drugs—there are also newly created jobs and opportunities, making the rite of going “para el Norte” less and less attractive, at least among the younger generations.

But the current economic climate and growing anti-immigrant sentiments in the United States likely aren’t the only factors fueling the Mexican immigration slowdown. I think this is also a generational thing—at least, that’s the case in my family. Two of my uncles

on my mother’s side and one on my father’s side did come to the United States during the 1950s and 1960s.

For the most part, they were able to find good jobs and live better lives than they would have back in Mexico.

But today, not one of my nieces or nephews—or the nieces and nephews of my friends and acquaintances—think of the United States as the promised land for jobs and opportunities.

To be sure, there are still millions of undocumented immigrants in the United States, about 60 percent of whom are Mexican. There are also an estimated 3 million who entered the country as minors. For those who came as children—who did not make their own decision to break the U.S. immigration laws—there’s only one thing to do: Create a path to legalization and allow them to stay in the only country they really know, by reconsidering and passing the Dream Act.

Should the current immigration patterns continue, many of the rest will find their way back on their own, like the man I met on the plane last Christmas. That’s one, partial way to address immigration in the United States. But it shouldn’t take Washington off the hook when it comes to addressing this country’s failed immigration policies.

Laura Martinez is a New York City-based journalist and blogger at www.Miblogestublog.com. She wrote this for Newsday.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

No such thing as a free lunch

The people from Tinian involved in the reservation and night stays at the Chalan Kanoa Beach Hotel should be reminded that there is no such thing as a “free lunch” when you consumed someone’s services and resources.

On the other hand, the hotel manager was not blameless for part of the deal as well. Had the manager confirmed the reservation with a credit card, this whole thing should be a no brainer. So, in this sense, what is the manager who approved the reservation thinking? A little problem here and there concerning the reservation and stays of the guests from Tinian could have been averted had the manager confirmed and authorized the reservation with a credit card. The credit card should be valid and pre-authorized for the entire stay. The rest is the final settlement of the credit card, or the manager could have pre-paid the entire stay with a good credit card, debit card or cash.

Caveat to business owners and hotel operators, watch out for this kind of dealings and people representing someone’s status. I had the unfortunate incident myself. After offering a person whom I knew, but not as a good friend, a ride at the commuter airport on Saipan, and taking this supposedly nice person from Tinian to San Antonio, we stopped at a store in Koblerville. I followed the person into the store because I needed something myself. As I approached the cashier, he also stacked up several things that he wanted including beers, soft drinks, chips, and also asked the cashier for four packs of cigarettes. I told the cashier that only two items were mine, but the guy insisted that I include his and we would total the amount that represented his purchases.

I bought the whole thing thinking that I would get reimbursed as soon as we get to the destination somewhere in San Antonio, somehow I began to feel uneasy. When we got to San Antonio, my riding






friend hurriedly gathered all his purchases and swiftly walked to the resident behind a house where we parked. I waited, and that was the last I have seen of this guy. About two months later, I met my ghost friend on Tinian, but he seemed to have forgotten everything that happened on Saipan. Not a word nor at least a “thank you.” So now, this incident of the Chalan Kanoa Beach Hotel, it just made me wanting to express a similar situation. This recent situation hurt the Chalan Kanoa Beach Hotel, the only difference this situation to my incident was that the hotel here got paid, in my case I did not get a penny. I am pretty sure that many of your readers have horror stories just like mine, but I thought I give you heads up as this may not be the end of this kind of trickery in the books.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Yap	Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 83 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Majuro	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 77

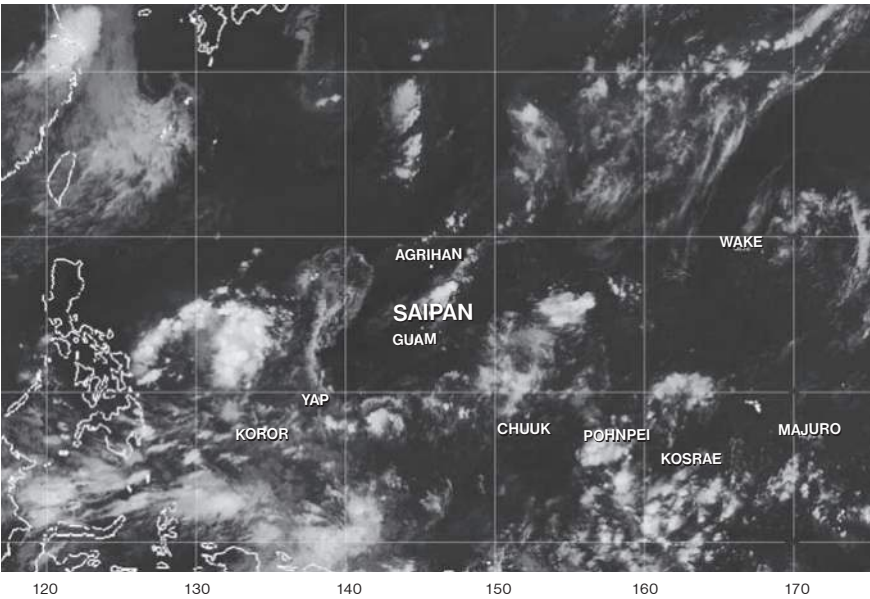
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 57 ▼ 51
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 72
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 91 ▼ 83
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 75
London	Rain	▲ 68 ▼ 55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 63 ▼ 43
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▼ 79
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 72
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 92 ▼ 80
Paris	Rain	▲ 71 ▼ 56
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Rome	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 67
Salem	Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 55
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 54
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 75
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 91 ▼ 80
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▼ 76

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
1:22 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet	
6:24 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	
1:41 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	
8:24 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward through a weak circulation centered well south of Guam near 5N147E then curves southeastward to end at EQ152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found just southwest of Koror within 140 miles of a line from 11N130E to 1N137E farther east. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring southwest of Chuuk within 150 miles of a line from EQ143E to 8N149E. A surface trough stretches southwestward from 20N145E to 12N139E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located northwest of the Marianas within 80 miles of a line from 15N140E to 18N144E. Another surface trough runs southwestward from 16N163E to 10N153E. Isolated thunderstorms are found northeast of Chuuk between 14N and 10N from 153E to 157E. An upper-level low centered east of Wake Island at 20N170E is triggering isolated thunderstorms between 21N and 16N from 169E to 174E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:02 AM	6:42 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM
Monday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	6:02 AM	6:40 PM
Wednesday	6:03 AM	6:40 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:11 PM	5:15 AM
Sunday	6:50 PM	6:07 AM
Monday	7:28 PM	6:56 AM
Tuesday	8:04 PM	7:44 AM
Wednesday	8:40 PM	8:31 AM

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PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
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- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 11, 2011

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) C09314 2:20am 2:50am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) C09315 5:30am 6:00am 1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP) C09315 4:25am 5:00am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN) C09314 3:20am 3:55am 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) C09317 4:25am 5:15am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 C09315 4:25am 6:00am 1, 5 via ROP C09313 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6 C09313 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 5K386 5:50pm 6:40pm 4 C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily 5K382 11:30pm 12:20am+1 1, 5	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN C09314 2:20am 3:55am 1, 5 via ROP C09316 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 5K387 6:30am 7:20am 3, 4, 7 C09596 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6 C09596 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 5K389 8:00am 8:50am 5 C09600 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) 5K212 8:20am 10:55am 3, 4, 7	NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN 5K213 11:55am 4:25pm 3, 4, 7
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:05pm 12:45am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:25am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:05am 8:30am 1, 5	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09317/191 4:25am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 9:55pm Daily via NRT C09313/183 7:55am 8:40pm 3, 6 via GUM C09603/183 3:05pm 8:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM C09603/193 3:05pm 10:10pm 2, 5 via GUM-Palau C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN DL172/288 7:45am 12:35am+1 Daily via NRT OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0190/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 3, 6 via GUM C0192/9596 9:55pm 7:25am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Palau C0184/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM C0184/9596 11:25pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:25am 5, via GUM PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am 1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 5K168 9:50am 1:00pm 1, 5 C09603/179 3:05pm 9:25pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 7 via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ724/603 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ750/603 1:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6 via ICN OZ722/605 1:25pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:25pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN 5K169 2:55pm 10:00pm 1, 5 C0180/9596 10:30pm 7:25am+1 5 via GUM C0180/9596 10:30pm 7:50am+1 1 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 100	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily				
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



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- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Maharlika

PNP tailor-fit specs for Mike Arroyo choppers

» 'Conspiracy to cover up' real owner; former first gentleman no-show



PH COMFORT WOMEN

An alleged Filipina comfort woman or Japanese sex slave during World War II wipes her eyes as a picture of another comfort women who died is displayed during a rally Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2011 in front of the Japanese embassy in suburban Pasay City south of Manila, Philippines. The rally was held to commemorate the 66th anniversary of the end of WWII on Aug. 15 and to continue their demand for an apology and compensation from the Japanese government.

By CATHY C. YAMSUAN
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Two things stood out in the five-hour hearing of the Senate blue ribbon committee on Thursday.

First, the specifications of the helicopters that the Philippine National Police needed were altered apparently to accommodate the choppers that allegedly belonged to Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, according to Sen. Franklin Drilon.

Second, Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile pointed to a "conspiracy to cover up" the real owner of the second-hand helicopters that were eventually sold to the PNP as brand new.

"From the very start there was really a deliberate effort to allow or enable the purchase by PNP of the Raven helicopters of Mike Arroyo," Drilon said at the hearing of the Senate blue ribbon committee.

The PNP bought for P105 million in 2009 three helicopters, including two used ones (Robinson Raven Is) believed to be owned by Arroyo that were passed off as brand new. The committee found out that the price of a new Raven I helicopter is P20 million.

Arroyo, husband of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, has denied that he owned the two used helicopters. He was a no-show at the hearing, citing health reasons.

Documents furnished the In-

quirer by Drilon's office showed that the specs for the helicopters were altered to accommodate secondhand ones even before the first formal bidding.

Drilon said after the hearing that the PNP uniform and equipment standardization board (UESB) issued Resolution 2008-01 dated Feb. 11, 2008, stating that the police needed light helicopters with a minimum speed of 110 knots, a minimum range of 229 miles and a minimum height capability of 12,000 feet.

The resolution said the Aviation Security Group prescribed the specifications for a two-seater single engine to be used for training, patrol and traffic monitoring; a six-seater single engine for patrol, fire fighting, "sling-cargo operation" and administration, and a five-seater for patrol, evacuation, surveillance and VIP/troop transport.

Chief Supt. Leocadio Santiago, director of the Special Action Force, which was identified as an "end user" of the aircraft, was among the signatories to the resolution.

The UESB amended the specifications on April 9 in Resolution 2008-16. It said that after "a thorough review and further evaluation," it was changing the proposed standard specifications for light police operational helicopters "to a lower speed of 100 knots, a higher range of 300 miles and height capability of 14,000 feet."

Signed by Puno, Razon

The resolution contained the same set of signatories. The new specifications were repeated in Resolution 2008-260 issued by the National Police Commission (Napolcom) on May 5, 2008.

The resolution was signed by then Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno as Napolcom chair and then PNP Director General Avelino Razon as commissioner.

Drilon noted that due to these alterations, only the Robinson R-44 Raven I helicopters later offered by Lionair Inc. through its agent, Manila Aerospace Products Trading (Maptra), qualified.

Tailor-fit

Drilon said another bidder, Bee-line, offered Enstrom 280FX and Enstrom F28F helicopters. But these only had a cruise speed of 75 knots; a maximum range of 263.5 miles and a height capability of 12,000 feet.

"The specifications made in April, in effect, disqualified other helicopters so that only Raven I was admitted. The effort to tailor-fit the specifications to Raven I is very, very clear," the senator said during the five-hour hearing of the Senate blue ribbon committee on Thursday.

"In fact, the original specification would have disqualified Raven I but they (PNP officials) amended the specifications para swak na swak (so they would be a perfect fit)," Drilon noted.

"It is quite obvious what the See PNP on next page

Century Insurance manager bids Saipan farewell

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For Cornelio Matanguihan, the best part about living on Saipan for seven years was embracing an easy, uncomplicated life on an island.

"Life on Saipan is simple and quiet. You might be away from your loved ones back in the Philippines but you can always talk to them every day," Matanguihan, fondly called Nel by family and friends, said in an interview.

A native of Cainta, Rizal, Matanguihan served for seven years as the general manager for Century Insurance Company Ltd., the largest insurer in the CNMI and one of the premier insurers in Guam and in other parts of Micronesia.

Matanguihan's stint on island has come to an end as he left for Guam on Monday to take charge of the company's Guam operations.

He revealed that after a few months of submitting the application and preparing all the documents that were asked for, he finally received his H1 visa last July 25.

"I'm somewhat excited because it's a new place. But since I'm also going to be working on an island, I think it's going to be pretty much the same," said Matanguihan.

accountancy field, starting as a management accountant until he became the manager for the Finance and Administration Department of CGU International Insurance.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Former Century Insurance Company Ltd. general manager Cornelio "Nel" Matanguihan at his old office on the first floor of the J.P. Center building in Garapan. Matanguihan has bid Saipan adieu after making the island his home for the past seven years.

How it all began

Matanguihan, a certified public accountant in the Philippines, graduated with a degree in Commerce major in Accounting from the Philippine College of Commerce, now known as the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

He rose through ranks in the

"I didn't want to retire still doing numbers," Matanguihan told *Saipan Tribune*. "So when I reached the highest position, which was finance manager, that's when I decided to do insurance work."

Matanguihan then served as the underwriting manager tasked to do underwriting,

claims, loss control, and reinsurance operations for the same company from 2000 to 2004. With the new job, he noted that he had to "start from scratch" and learn the ropes.

"It was basically self-study for me," recalled Matanguihan, who noted that there was no such thing as an insurance course. "Somehow, you learn about insurance in college but you are only taught about the client's point of view. To survive in the insurance industry, you have to have the initiative to learn."

His 24 years at CGU International Insurance had Matanguihan working on various Micronesian accounts, thus his familiarity about the islands.

Through his email network, Matanguihan found out about the vacancy at CIC Saipan, where he would supervise operations not only on Saipan but also in Guam and Papua New Guinea.

Matanguihan disclosed that it was his first time to actually work abroad, and not just travel around overseas assignments. That's why they made the decision as a family to accept the Saipan offer.

See CENTURY on next page

Macaraig lauds completion of review of CW final rules

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig said the completion of the review of final rule on the Commonwealth-only transitional worker program by the Office of Management Budget of the White House is a welcome development.

"We welcome that news. This definitely helps lessen the uncertainties. But we're still waiting for the actual release of those rules," Macaraig told *Saipan Tribune*.

The White House's Office of Management and Budget received the regulations on June 15 and finished its review on Aug. 9, ahead of the Sept. 15 review period deadline.

This development also comes months before the Nov. 27 deadline or the last day of the two-year period allowed for foreign workers to remain

in the CNMI using a Commonwealth-issued permit under the federalization law.

"It's good that the regulations are coming out very soon. The sooner we get them, the better," added Macaraig.

According to Macaraig, waiting for the release of the final rule on the transitional worker program for the CNMI has been difficult not only for the Filipino community but also for other non-resident workers.

Macaraig said that once the regulations are published by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service, the Consulate will gather Filipino workers' groups and discuss its impact with them.

"We will hold a video conference so we can include the Filipino communities on Tinian and Rota during the discussion," added Macaraig.



Macaraig

Artists protest censorship

By JULIE M. AURELIO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

As part of planned protest actions against the “attacks on freedom of expression,” an artists’ coalition decrying the closure of a controversial exhibit at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) has urged the CCP to reopen it on what would have been its last day.

Expressing support for artist Mideo Cruz and decrying censorship, the Palayain ang Sining called on the CCP to reconsider its closure of the “Kulo” exhibit that included Cruz’s “Poleteismo” that outraged politicians, clerics and religious activists.

The CCP board last Tuesday decided to close down the entire exhibit, bowing to pressure from religious conservatives and apparently after a call from President Aquino.

The exhibit, which opened last June, was supposed to have ended on Aug. 21.

Creative protest

“We call on the CCP to reopen the exhibition in the spirit of the free flow of ideas and cultural expressions,” the coalition of artists, critics and academics said in a statement.

“We call on all artists to join us in our cause and mount a creative protest against censorship,” coalition spokesperson Iggy Gutierrez told a press conference at the University of the Philippines on Thursday.

He said the coalition also planned on showing the “Kulo” exhibit in other venues but declined to give details.

The UP press conference was attended by a broad range of artists’ groups, including Sining Bugkos, Ugatlahi, the Concerned Artists of the Philippines and Artists Arrest, among others.

The groups threw their support behind Cruz and Karen Flores, the CCP visual arts head who had approved the controversial show and who resigned on Wednesday.

Flores, who was also at Thursday’s forum, pointed out that religion should not lead people into hatred and should instead enlighten people.

Practice tolerance

“Religion should lead us to practice tolerance amid our differences,” she said.

Religious conservatives and politicians raised a howl over Cruz’s work, which featured an image of Jesus Christ with a penis attached to his face, and threatened civil and criminal suits against the CCP board and the show’s participating artists.

Cecilia Sta. Maria, a professor at the UP Arts Studies department, said this was similar to disliking a particular page or chapter of a book but judging the entire thing as offensive.

Bienvenido Lumbera, a national artist for literature, said he found the recent events to be disturbing and feared it would set a precedent.

“The fear is already there for the artists, they would [have to] consider if anyone would be disturbed by their creations,” he said.

Fighting censorship

Nicanor Tiongson, a former censors chief, said vigilance is needed to fight censorship and education to help people understand the workings of art.

Tiongson was the censors chief in 2001 when the Arroyo administration banned the showing of “Live Show,” a film depicting the lives of young men and women who perform sex onstage, because of pressure from the late Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin and conservative political and religious leaders.

Musician and high school teacher Cabring Cabrera, the vocalist of Datu’s Tribe, explained that as a musician, he was very much against the idea of censorship.

“It seems like President Aquino’s ‘matuwid na daan’ is turning out to be narrow and not that straight,” he said.



An art sculpture by Filipino contemporary artist Mideo Cruz showing his version of Jesus Christ is displayed during an exhibit at Manila’s Cultural Center of the Philippines, Monday, Aug. 8, 2011. The exhibit has provoked heated debate about freedom of expression in the predominantly Catholic nation.

PNP

From Page 10

pattern was—to tailor-fit the specifications in order that Raven I will be the only equipment that will qualify because Enstrom supplied by Beeline would not qualify (under the new specifications),” he said at the hearing.

The PNP eventually purchased three helicopters from Maptra—one brand new Robinson R-44 Raven II and two secondhand Raven Is. It was Sen. Panfilo Lacson who initially called attention to the purchase since the PNP paid the full price for the secondhand units.

Maintenance fees

So far, at least five civilian resource persons called by the Senate panel have either identified or claimed hearing that Arroyo owned the helicopters.

They include Archibald Po, owner of Lionair Inc., who claimed he once maintained the choppers sold to the PNP for Arroyo; Lionair general manager Rene Sia, Lionair collections agent Edith Solano-Juguan and former Lionair dispatcher Domingo Lazo.

Juguan said under oath on Thursday that she regularly collected the monthly maintenance fees that Lionair charged Arroyo from his office at the

LTA Building on Perea Street in Makati City.

She said the monthly charges averaged P350,000. On one occasion, however, the bill reached P1 million when helicopter parts were replaced with new ones.

Juguan said all accounts were paid in cash handed to her by Arroyo’s assistant, Rowena del Rosario.

Lazo in turn, told senators that while working as a Lionair dispatcher from 2004 to 2009, he received direct instructions via text messages from Arroyo himself about flight schedules and the names of passengers he was allowing to use his helicopters.

A fifth witness, Maptra president and managing head Hilario de Vera, claimed in his testimony on Aug. 2 that Po, on several occasions during the PNP bidding process, consistently dropped the name “FG,” a popular reference to Arroyo, in an attempt to pressure him to dispose of the two secondhand choppers he later sold to the police.

No-show

Arroyo’s lawyer, Inocencio Ferrer, sent the blue ribbon committee a letter saying that Arroyo’s doctors had advised him not to attend “because of his serious heart ailment.”

“The physicians have cautioned my client that the presence of another tear or dissec-

tion in his heart could cause his sudden death,” the letter said.

Ferrer said Arroyo was willing to be checked “in any hospital, where his medical records are readily available.”

The lawyer added that Arroyo was attending to his wife, whose second operation last Wednesday failed.

Sen. Teofisto Guingona III, chair of the blue ribbon committee, said he would direct a Senate doctor to “examine the veracity of Mike Arroyo’s medical condition.”

At the start of hearing, Guingona made a statement directly addressing Arroyo.

“After telling you detractors that you are back, why don’t you face your detractors? Come to the Senate and prove that the people behind the statements are lying,” he challenged Arroyo.

“Now that you are back, let us ask you after you take your oath that only the truth will come out of your mouth. Look at us straight in the eye. Do not hide behind a medical certificate,” the senator added.

Donate choppers

As this developed, senators have asked Po whether he was willing to give up the two other Raven I helicopters languishing in the Lionair hangar to the government.

“If it is legal to do so, that

should not be a problem. But how can I donate something that is not mine,” Po told senators.

“You are the registered owner so you can donate (them),” Guingona said.

Drilon suggested that Arroyo, since he denies ownership of the choppers, be asked to issue an undertaking he would hold Po “free and harmless from any action if Mr. Po would donate these to any agency of the government, particularly the PNP.”

Cover-up

The conspiracy to conceal the real owner of the secondhand helicopters sold to the PNP was so evident that frustrated senators asked officials in the know to speak out and spare the innocent.

“There’s a cover-up. That’s very, very clear because their answers border on the ridiculous. It’s already absurd,” Guingona said after the hearing.

Enrile almost lost his cool while grilling a resident auditor of the PNP.

“The contract (requires) brand-new (helicopters) but you just accepted the report of your people without reading it,” Enrile snapped at Jaime Sanares, PNP resident auditor.

Enrile was reacting to Sanares’ claim that when he confronted subordinates who inspected the two Robinson R-44 Raven I choppers, he

was told that the choppers really looked brand new.

“You yourself as head could have checked the condition, whether they are really brand new. And auditors are sharp people supposedly? My God! I have to tell you the truth. My impression now in this particular case is that there is a conspiracy to cover up something,” the Senate President said.

Verzosa

At one point, Sen. Antonio Trillanes urged former PNP Director General Jesus Verzosa, under whose watch the secondhand helicopters were bought, to disclose the story behind the transaction finalized in 2009.

“At every step of way, the commander is informed especially with such a major transaction of P105 million. You cannot pass the buck to your subordinates. If you stood up and said, ‘no I cannot allow this to proceed,’ all your subordinates would have been spared,” Trillanes said.

Verzosa would only admit that “some lapses” might have occurred in the procurement process.

Guingona said the fact that the PNP transacted with Maptra was already irregular because its accreditation as supplier had lapsed at the time the purchase contract was signed in July 2009.

and exercise. Matanguihan continued to refrain from smoking (he’s been a non-smoker since 1991) and eating meat. He was also devoted to taking regular walks at the American Memorial Park every morning.

Matanguihan said that while he will certainly miss his co-workers and the friends he made on Saipan, he doesn’t worry about it too much. “I’m still in the neighborhood and I’m sure I’ll be back to visit from time to time,” he said with a smile.

CENTURY

From Page 10

“Looking back, it was an easy decision to make because my children were already grown up when I left,” he said.

Proud family man

From the way he talks about his family, especially his brood, it’s apparent how Matanguihan is proud about them even though not one of them took on the similar career path.

Matanguihan’s eldest son, 28-year-old Kris, is an established wedding videographer and business owner who has been featured in different wedding magazines and trade fairs. He maintains a website, www.krismtanguihan.com, which Matanguihan loves to check out during his leisure time.

His daughter, 25-year-old Tina, works as a web designer and developer at IBM Philippines. She also writes for Bo Sanchez’s Didache and maintains a blog at

www.tinamats.com, which Matanguihan loves to read to get his mind off of work.

“I’m proud of them because they’re doing great with their lives,” added Matanguihan.

Matanguihan said his wife Tessie and both his children have already visited him on Saipan and he also visits them in between work travel assignments and his annual vacations.

On the side

When he is not chatting with

PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

Suspected bomber, aide killed in Philippines blast

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Authorities say two men were killed when a bomb they were allegedly carrying exploded prematurely along a highway in the restive southern Philippines. No motive has been established, but Muslim rebels and criminal syndicates operate in the region. Police chief Chino Mamburam in Kidapawan city says the homemade explosive went off early Friday, killing the suspected bomber instantly. He says investigators managed to talk to his companion before he died in a hospital. Mamburam says it’s possible the bomb was meant to disrupt peace talks with Muslim rebels. The military blamed al-Qaida-linked militants for a blast last week in nearby Cotabato city that killed one man and wounded 12 people outside a gun store. Police suspect a land dispute was behind that incident.

Manila to help Jakarta prosecute Bali bomb suspect

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine officials say they will help Indonesia prosecute the key suspect in the 2002 Bali bombings. The pledge comes after Umar Patek was sent home under tight security after being arrested in the same Pakistani town where U.S. forces killed Osama bin Laden. Philippine Anti-Terrorism Council chief Paquito Ochoa Jr. said Friday that Manila will provide Indonesian prosecutors with intelligence and evidence they’ve gathered through the years from when Patek was believed hiding in the Philippines. Patek allegedly helped carry out the Bali bombings that killed 202 people in Indonesia. He is believed to have fled in 2003 to the southern Philippines, where he has been accused of plotting attacks and training Abu Sayyaf extremists for years.

Samu't Sari

Kukunitus Program enjoys 'great' turnout at Tinian Public Library

Tinian Public Library has launched its pilot program called Kukunitus Program. Kukunitus is the Chamorro name for the world's favorite insect: a colorful spotted ladybug.

The Kukunitus Program addresses learning standards for children ages 4 to 7 years old; meeting four days a week; Monday through Thursday from 9am to 11:30am.

Daily activities are based on accountability movement in education and build upon research on what the children must know and able to do. The activities provide experiences to encourage the children to stretch to a reasonable amount of effort to acquire new skills. The program's objectives is to prepare children to enter school in September with improved levels of foundational skills in language reading and mathematics. Basic computer skills are also introduced for the 6- and 7-year-olds.

Tutors are Work Investment Agency trainees for the summer and volunteers and teaching staff with many years of education experience. The love for learning; acquire the ability to make choices and discover a sense of their own competence are just a few of those values driving the Kukunitus Program.

Kukunitus has reached its maximum capacity with a waiting list. Tinian Public Library will analyze its data after the program to determine the design of the next youth development program to be implemented.

Tinian Public Library extends its appreciation to Mayor Dela Cruz for his support to the library and the Kukunitus Program. (PR)



GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL OPENING

Construction workers build a scaffolding to enable them to paint the outside of Building F of Marianas High School earlier this week.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



INAUGURAL FLIGHT

Japanese tourists from Nagoya are all smiles upon arrival Thursday at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. They were part of the over 80 passengers of Fly Guam's inaugural flight from Nagoya, Japan that arrived 4:25pm.

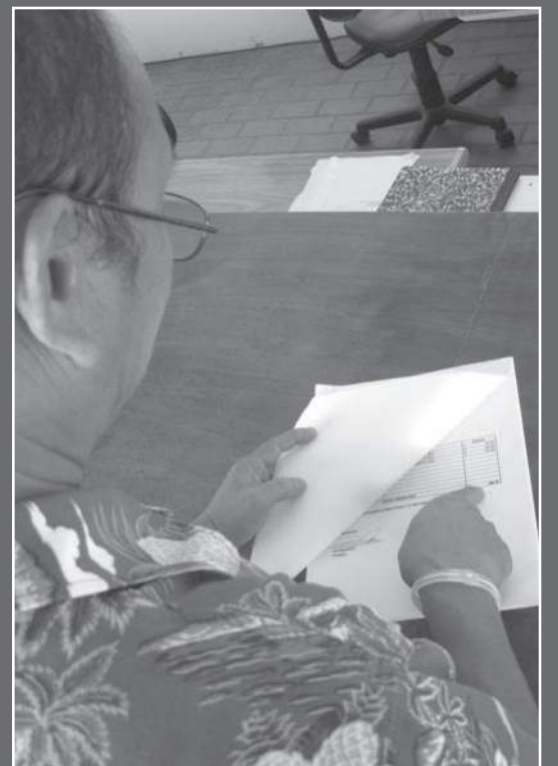
MONETH G. DEPOSA



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Advance happy birthday to L.J. Boy who will be turning 7 on Aug. 14. We love you and wish for many more to come greetings from your Basa and Onio family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



UNPAID BILLING

Noel Roque, restaurant manager/assistant general manager of Chalan Kanoa Beach Hotel, shows the unpaid \$880 billings for a three-day night stay incurred by more than 10 Tinian representatives to the Flame Tree Festival.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Business

Dow up 423 as Wall Street whipsaws again

NEW YORK (AP)—Lurching higher in its week of whiplash, Wall Street recorded one of its biggest gains of all time Thursday after investors seized on a few signs that the economy might just be able to avoid a new recession.

The Dow Jones industrial average soared 423 points. It had already fallen 634 points Monday, risen 429 Tuesday and fallen 519 Wednesday. Never before has the Dow had four 400-point swings in a row.

BANGKOK (AP)—Asian stocks moved higher Friday after investors starved of positive economic news latched onto a slight drop in U.S. unemployment claims to propel Wall Street dramatically higher.

Global markets have fluctuated wildly this week as signs the U.S. might be headed toward recession rattled investors already unnerved by Europe's worsening debt crisis.

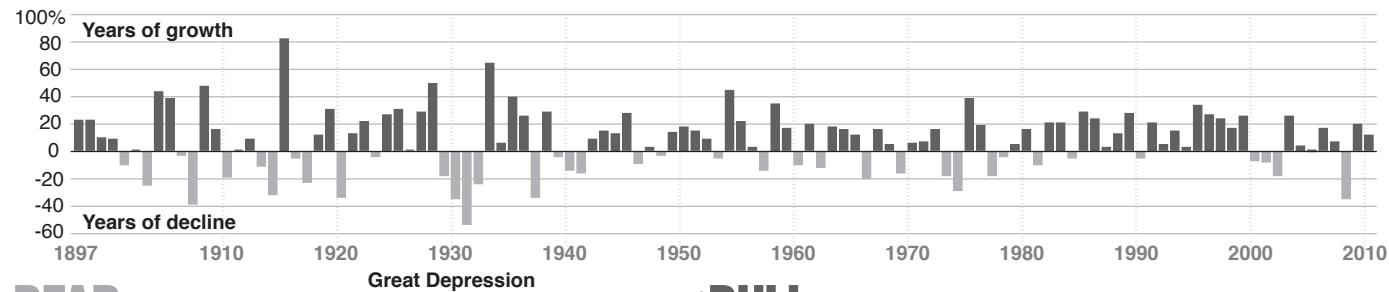
Oil prices hovered above \$85 a barrel amid the stock

Bears and bulls

The terms "bear" and "bull," likely derived from the fact that a bear swipes down when attacking an opponent and a bull thrusts its horns up, are used metaphorically to describe the movement of a stock market.

Market ups and downs

Annual percent change in year-end value of Dow Jones Industrial Average, 1897-2010



BEAR MARKET

- Prolonged period of falling prices, usually brought on by anticipation of declining economic activity
- First used to describe bearskin sellers who would speculate on the future price of the skins, hoping they would drop; term stuck as a description for a downturn in the market

Source: Dow Jones Averages, Oppenheimer Funds



BULL MARKET

- Prolonged period of rising prices; overall, bull markets generally last longer than bear markets
- The blood sport of bull-and-bear fights gave rise to the notion that bulls and bears are opposites; hence the term bull market stands for the opposite of bear, or an upturn in the market

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market rally. The dollar held steady against the yen and rose against the euro.

Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average was up 0.2 percent 8,997.55 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 1.3 percent to 19,857.62. South Korea's KOSPI was 0.7 percent higher at 1,829.27.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 1.2 percent to 4,191.80, while benchmarks in New Zealand, the Philippines and mainland China also rose.

The pieces of news that sent Wall Street rocketing higher were not exactly blockbusters: Cisco Systems said its profit

was better than expected, the job market got a little better, and France tried to raise confidence in its shaken banking system.

But this is a week in which any move by the market—higher or lower—seems to touch off an investor stampede. So it was on Thursday, when stocks shot higher at the opening bell and never turned around.

Carlton Neel, who manages about \$2 billion as a senior portfolio manager at Virtus Investment Partners, said investors are so scared of being late to a rally or a sell-off that they are trading in herds.

"Fear tends to be a much more powerful emotion, and the sell-offs tend to be more violent than the rallies," he said. "But people are worried about missing the

bottom, so you will have a few melt-ups along the way."

The four days of trading this week have been the wildest for the market since the financial crisis during the fall of 2008. Each day has instantly taken a place in Wall Street history. The Dow's losses on Monday and Wednesday were its sixth- and ninth-largest by points, and its gains on Tuesday and Thursday were the 10th- and 11th-largest.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index has risen or fallen at least 4 percent each day. That has not happened on four consecutive days since November 2008, the depths of the crisis.

It's only the third time since 1934, said Kevin Pleines, an analyst at Birinyi Associates. The first was October 1987—including the day known as Black Monday, when the S&P plunged more than 20 percent.

On Thursday, American investors got an encouraging report before the market opened when European stock markets turned around their losses and had one of their best days in recent weeks.

This time, US fears a financial crisis from abroad

WASHINGTON (AP)—Three years ago, a financial crisis triggered by bad mortgage investments spread from U.S. banks to Europe. Panicky financial markets tanked.

Now, fear is running in the opposite direction. Worries about toxic government debt held by European banks have hammered U.S. stocks and threaten to freeze credit on both sides of the Atlantic.

And traders are wondering: Could Europe's government-debt crisis spread through the U.S. financial system?

No one's sure because no one knows how much toxic debt European banks hold—or how much risk that debt poses to U.S. banks. But investors are worried.

The 2008 financial crisis left countries like Greece, Ireland and Portugal holding huge debts. The three have required

bailouts from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund totaling \$520 billion. Italy and Spain, which are much bigger economies, might need bailouts, too.

As the crisis has intensified, Spanish and Italian interest rates have surged. Escalating rates could throw their economies back into recession—which would worsen their debt loads. This week, the European Central Bank started buying Italian and Spanish debt to try to drive rates back down.

Should Italy or Spain default, European banks that hold their bonds would suffer. Wall Street's fear is that the contagion would imperil U.S. banks that do business with those European banks.

French banks, with huge amounts of Italian and Greek government debt, are especially vulnerable. Shares in

Societe Generale, France's No. 2 bank, plunged nearly 15 percent Wednesday on rumors it was teetering under the weight of debts tied to troubled Eurozone economies. The bank rejected the rumors as unfounded.

French regulators on Thursday banned short-selling of bank and insurance company stocks, preventing speculators from betting against them and driving their prices down when rumors flare. Societe Generale's stock recovered 3.7 percent Thursday. But most other European banks fell sharply.

Using data from European Union stress tests on 91 European banks, Fitch Ratings said losses of 50 percent on Greek bonds and 25 percent on Portuguese and Irish bonds wouldn't have made any of four big French banks flunk the test.

Chinese bullet train maker orders recall

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese bullet train manufacturer recalled 54 trains Friday in a new embarrassment for a problem-plagued prestige project following a July crash that killed 40 people.

The recall adds to signs Beijing is scaling back ambitious expansion plans for a high-speed rail network that once enjoyed a level of political prestige comparable to China's manned space program. A moratorium was imposed on new rail projects this week and the railway minister announced a reduction in train speeds.

The recall applies to model CRH380BL trains used on the Beijing-Shanghai line, which has suffered repeated delays blamed on equipment failures, state-owned China North Locomotive and Rolling Stock Ltd. said. There was no indication it was linked to the July 23 crash on a separate line in southern China.

Experts will examine sensors that might be faulty or too sensitive and cause trains to stop unnecessarily, said a CNR spokesman, Tan Xiaofeng. He said that might happen if a door is ajar or a passenger violates rules and

lights a cigarette in a restroom.

The Beijing-Shanghai line has suffered "frequent quality problems" with components provided by U.S., European and Chinese suppliers, Tan said. He declined to identify the suppliers.

"When problems occur, we don't wish to hide them," he said. "We put life before everything else."

Beijing launched an overhaul of the multibillion-dollar bullet train network after the July crash triggered an avalanche of public complaints about the human cost of recklessly fast development.



In this photo taken on July 26, 2011, a train attendant walks past a CRH high-speed train that stops at Beijing South Station in Beijing.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

FBI looking into allegation by Verizon of sabotage

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Talks continued between Verizon and striking workers Thursday as the company enlisted the help of the FBI to look into alleged incidents of sabotage at some of its network facilities. Spokesman Rich Young said the company, based in New York City, has discovered more than 90 acts of sabotage since the strike began last weekend. Young said wires had been cut in some places, causing the loss of phones and Internet service for residences and businesses. Among the non-residential customers affected were a police department and a hospital, according to Michael Mason, Verizon's chief security officer.

Short-selling banned in 4 European countries

PARIS (AP)—France, Italy, Spain and Belgium are banning short-selling on select stocks amid efforts to calm market turmoil that has sent bank shares gyrating wildly and aggravated worries about Europe's huge debts. The European Union's markets supervisor, the ESMA, announced the move late Thursday night after boosting surveillance of stormy markets earlier in the day. The move capped two days of whipsaw trading that saw French banks' market value fall and rise by billions of euros. In a short sale, a trader hopes to make a profit by betting on the decline in the price of a share. The practice has been blamed for contributing to market volatility.

Nation

GOP debate: Hitting hard at each other—and Obama

AMES, Iowa (AP)—Minnesota rivals Tim Pawlenty and Michele Bachmann sparred bitterly Thursday night during an eight-candidate Republican debate, trying to break out of the GOP presidential pack ahead of an Iowa test vote with huge consequences. Each seeks to become the main challenger to Republican front-runner Mitt Romney.

Their efforts were newly complicated by Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who stole some of the spotlight from afar by making it known hours before the debate that he was running for the GOP nomination.

Romney, a multimillionaire businessman who casts himself as a jobs creator, made his own stir earlier in the day when, at the Iowa State Fair, he declared that “corporations are people,” drawing ridicule from Democrats.

Those were just the latest twists in the most consequential week yet in the 2012 Republican presidential nomination fight.

In the two-hour debate, the squabbling by Pawlenty and Bachmann allowed Romney, the GOP front-runner making his second presidential bid, to remain above the fray and emerge relatively unscathed by his rivals.

Though every debate participant assailed President Barack Obama, it was clear from the confrontations between Pawlenty, a former Minnesota governor,



Republican presidential candidate Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-Minn., speaks as former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney listens during the Iowa GOP/Fox News Debate at the CY Stephens Auditorium in Ames, Iowa, Thursday, Aug. 11, 2011.

and Bachmann, now a member of Congress, who had the most on the line ahead of Saturday's straw poll that could well win now the field.

On stage just a few minutes, Pawlenty, who is struggling to gain traction despite spending years laying the groundwork for his campaign, accused Bachmann of achieving nothing significant in Congress, lacking executive experience and having a history of fabrications.

“She’s got a record of misstating and making false statements,” Pawlenty said.

Bachmann, who has risen

in polls since entering the race this summer and has eclipsed Pawlenty, quickly responded with a list of what she called Pawlenty’s liberal policies when he was Minnesota’s governor, including his support for legislation to curb industrial emissions.

“You said the era of small government is over,” she told Pawlenty. “That sounds a lot like Barack Obama if you ask me.”

Much of the rest of the debate was heavily focused on the Democratic incumbent, with Romney and his seven rivals each seeking to prove he or she was the strongest Republican to

take on Obama.

“I’m not going to eat Barack Obama’s dog food,” Romney said when asked whether he would have vetoed the compromise legislation that Congress gave to the president that raised the debt ceiling. “What he served up is not what I would have done if I’d had been president of the United States.”

Notably absent from the eight-candidate spectacle were Perry, who was in Texas preparing for a weekend announcement tour to early primary states, and former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, who isn’t a candidate but was stoking presidential speculation anew with a visit to the Iowa State Fair.

The nation’s teetering economic situation shadowed the debate, with stock market vola-

tility and a downgrade in the U.S. credit rating giving Republicans ample opportunities to criticize Obama. The Democratic president will get his shot to counter the criticism next week during a Midwestern bus tour that will take him through this state that helped launch him on the path to the White House four years ago.

On Thursday, he, too, tried to align himself with a public fed up with economic uncertainty and Washington gridlock. “There is nothing wrong with our country. There is something wrong with our politics,” he declared in Michigan, where he was touring an advanced-battery factory.

In Iowa Thursday night, the Republicans commanded the spotlight.

North Texas’ 100 degree streak ends

DALLAS (AP)—The Dallas-Fort Worth area’s streak of 100-degree days is over—just two shy of the record set in 1980. After the region watched temperatures soar going all the way back to July 2, clouds moved in Thursday afternoon and some parts even got a little rain.

National Weather Service meteorologist Dan Shoemaker said Dallas-Fort Worth hit a high of 97 at 5:33 p.m. Thursday and was unlikely to climb higher. Afternoon cloud cover had allowed temperatures to dip into the 80s.

The 100-degree streak ended at 40 days, just missing the 1980 record of 42 days consecutive days of triple-digit temperatures.

Earlier Thursday, at least a few residents were a little disappointed at the possibility of not

breaking the record after living through such a hot summer.

“I want it to go ahead and prove that I’m right about this summer being worse than 1980,” Dr. Al Roberts, an internal medicine professor at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, said as the record was up in the air Thursday afternoon.

He said even his pool hasn’t provided him relief from the heat. “It’s like swimming in pea soup,” he said.

Bert Moore, dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas, said rooting for the streak was a way for people to “create something memorable out of their misery.”

“I told my wife that I wanted it to break the record,” Moore

said, then added, “Maybe I’d trade the record for a little rain.”

Others were grateful for any kind of break from the heat.

“I didn’t expect it to be this nice today,” said Sherise Adams as she took a drag on her cigarette outside a restaurant at the Galleria Dallas shopping mall. “It feels good out here. One hundred degrees and over is ridiculous. The humidity is crazy. It messes up my hair.”

Valet Jorge Medrano also said he was happy to see the streak end.

“We could wait 100 more years for the record to be broken,” he said.

But the relief likely won’t last long. Temperatures were expected to be as high as 103 by next week and are predicted to at least hit 100 on Friday.

Gov’t pays for empty flights to rural airports

On some days, the pilots with Great Lakes Airlines fire up a twin-engine Beechcraft 1900 at the Ely, Nev., airport and depart for Las Vegas without a single passenger on board. And the federal government pays them to do it.

Federal statistics reviewed by The Associated Press show that in 2010, just 227 passengers flew out of Ely while the airline got \$1.8 million in subsidies. The travelers paid \$70 to \$90 for a one-way ticket. The cost to taxpayers for each ticket: \$4,107.

Ely is one of 153 rural communities where airlines get subsidies through the \$200 million Essential Air Service program, and one of 13 that critics say should be eliminated from it. Some call the spending a boondoggle, but others see it as a critical financial lifeline to ensure economic stability in rural areas.

Steve Smith, executive director of the Jackson, Tenn., airport authority, also has seen empty or near empty flights take off, since the airlines get paid per flight, not per passenger. The subsidy amounted to \$244 for each of the 2,514 people who flew out of Smith’s airport last year, though few if any passen-



In an Aug. 9, 2011 photo, ground crew works on a flight at the Morgantown Municipal Airport in Morgantown, W.Va.

gers knew that.

“They fly the empty plane so they can still get the money,” Smith said.

The fight over the subsidies was a key sticking point that led to the recent political standoff in Washington that temporarily shut down the Federal Aviation Administration, putting thousands out of work for nearly two weeks. There were other disputes as well, such as a GOP proposal that would make it more difficult for airline workers to unionize.

Republicans got the EAS cuts they were looking for in last week’s agreement—but with a major caveat. Subsidies to Ely, Jackson and 11 other communities are set to end,

but Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood has the authority to continue them if he decides it’s necessary.

Rep. David McKinley, a Republican who came into office with tea party support, sided on the issue with Democratic Sen. Jay Rockefeller, a fellow West Virginian who has used his position as chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation to support the current funding.

Flights out of Morgantown, W.Va., were among those targeted by other Republicans. A \$1 million subsidy amounted to about \$52 for each of Morgantown’s more than 10,000 passengers last year. (AP)

ACROSS THE NATION

Lawyer: NJ student didn’t mean to spy on roommate

HADDONFIELD, N.J. (AP)—A lawyer for a former Rutgers University student accused of using a webcam to spy on his roommate’s intimate encounter with another man says in newly filed legal papers that prosecutors got it all wrong and that the case should be dropped. Nineteen-year-old Dharun Ravi faces 15 charges, including bias intimidation and invasion of privacy, in the case that’s been linked to roommate Tyler Clementi’s suicide last September. The filing says Ravi accidentally caught Clementi on camera with another man but immediately shut it off. The filing says Ravi has “no problem” with homosexuality and only turned on the camera because he was concerned the man Clementi had over might steal Ravi’s iPad.

Attorney: Soldier accused of murder ‘was cracking’

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan. (AP)—An Army sergeant charged with fatally shooting five service members at a combat stress clinic in Iraq does not deserve the death penalty, a defense attorney said Thursday, arguing his client’s actions could not have been premeditated

because of his deteriorating mental health. Sgt. John Russell, 46, is accused of carrying out the deadliest act of soldier-on-soldier violence in the war in Iraq as he was nearing the end of his third tour in 2009. He’s been charged with five counts of premeditated murder, two counts of attempted premeditated murder and one count of assault. The government wants to pursue his prosecution as a capital case.

Teen accused of urinating on Ore.-to-NY passenger

NEW YORK (AP)—An 18-year-old accused of urinating on the leg of another passenger during an Oregon-to-New York City flight will not face charges, prosecutors said. Robert Vietze, of Warren, Vt., was detained by police and then given a federal summons charging him with indecent exposure on the red-eye flight. The JetBlue plane left Portland late Tuesday and arrived at John F. Kennedy International Airport on Wednesday morning. Vietze was intoxicated and got up from his seat during the flight and relieved himself in the cabin on another passenger, said Sara Beth Joren, a spokeswoman with the police department of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which manages the airport.

Asia

Afghan witnesses: Chinook ablaze when it crashed

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan children retrieved souvenir-sized pieces of a helicopter shot down by the Taliban in eastern Afghanistan where witnesses on Thursday described seeing the chopper burst into flames and break apart before falling from the sky, killing 30 U.S. troops and eight Afghans.

Coalition forces finished recovering the victims' remains and big sections of the wreckage. Yet small, twisted pieces of the Chinook CH-47 remain scattered on both sides of a slow-flowing river in Wardak province where it crashed before dawn Saturday.

Farhad, a local resident, told Associated Press Television News that the helicopter was shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade fired from a nearby knoll as it was preparing to land.

"As soon as it was hit, it started burning," he said, standing in a field still littered with small pieces of the chopper, including a part of a scorched rifle stamped "Made in Germany" and a piece of charred paper with typewritten first aid instructions.

"After it started burning, it crashed. It came down in three pieces," he added. "We could see it burning from our homes."

Many of the victims' bodies were badly mangled and burned, said Farhad, who like many Afghans uses only one name.

The crash about 60 miles (97 kilometers) southwest of Kabul was the deadliest single loss for

U.S. forces in the nearly 10-year Afghan war.

The crash comes amid fears that the country is far from stable even though U.S. and NATO forces have begun to leave Afghanistan. U.S. military officials have tried to counter those fears, saying that while the downing of the Chinook was a tragic setback, one crash will not determine the course of the war.

The victims included 17 members of the elite Navy SEALs, five Naval Special Warfare personnel who support the SEALs, three Air Force Special Operations personnel, an Army helicopter crew of five, seven Afghan commandos and an Afghan interpreter.

Gul Agha, another resident of Tangi Valley, also said that after the helicopter crashed, parts were burning on either side of the Tangi River. Some of the debris also ended up on a nearby hillside, he said.

"When the helicopter came at night, the Taliban were hiding in the bushes around the area," he said.

He said coalition forces worked several days to remove victims' remains. Then they blew up sections of the helicopter into smaller pieces, loaded them on trucks and took them from the site, he said.

Marine Corps Gen. John Allen, the top commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, said Wednesday that F-16 fighter jets killed the insurgents responsible for the crash. But



In this Sunday, Aug. 7, 2011 photo, Jessica Daggs, 22, comforts Andrea Miller, 19, in Olathe, Kan., while talking about their friend Army Spc. Spencer Duncan, who was killed Saturday morning when his Chinook was shot down by insurgents in Afghanistan.

the military provided few details to back up the claim.

The U.S.-led coalition has also said the helicopter was apparently shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade. But Allen said the military will investigate whether other causes contributed to the crash.

Alam Gul, chief of the local council in Sayd Abad district where the crash occurred, said many villagers were up at the time because it is the holy month of Ramadan when Muslims fast during the day, break fast in the evening and then get up and eat again around 2 a.m. for suste-

nance to make it through the day.

He said people in the Tangi Valley worry that the U.S. will take revenge and bomb their villages. He insisted that no major Taliban figures were living or hiding out in the area, where many locals don't side with the U.S.-led coalition or

the Afghan government.

"The foreigners are guests, but what has changed in 10 years?" Gul said residents ask. "Yes, you are our guests, but you have done a lot of bad things."

He said frequent night raids in and around his district have angered local residents, who are offended by knocks on their doors in the middle of the night when families are sleeping.

Coalition forces left a combat outpost in Tangi, less than a mile (about 1 kilometer) from the crash site, in the spring. They took their expensive equipment, but left other items, like freezers, Gul said. The Taliban retrieved the items and had a yard sale, he said. Afghans from the surrounding area came to shop. Then, instead of occupying the outpost, Gul said the Taliban booby-trapped it with bombs.

In Washington, the Pentagon on Thursday released the list of the 30 killed in the Chinook shootdown, along with their ages, hometowns and states.

Also Thursday, five U.S. troops were killed by a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan.

On Wednesday, a NATO service member died in a roadside bomb blast and five Afghan policemen were killed when their checkpoint was attacked by Taliban insurgents, the coalition and Afghan police said.

The latest deaths, which raised to 374 the number of international forces killed so far this year, underscored the tenuous nature of the war.

ASIA BRIEFS

3 face execution in former India PM Gandhi's death

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's president has rejected the mercy petitions of three men sentenced to death for the 1991 assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the presidential office said Thursday. Gandhi was killed by a suicide bomber belonging to Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers while campaigning for his Congress party in southern India. The rebel group killed Gandhi in revenge for his decision to send Indian peacekeepers to intervene in the conflict. A total of 26 defendants were sentenced to death in 1998 after a six-year trial. However, an appeals court commuted the sentences of 22 defendants to life imprisonment and another had her clemency plea accepted.

Giant tent erected over Japan nuclear reactor

TOKYO (AP)—The operator of Japan's damaged Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant is building a huge tent to cover one of the worst-hit reactors. Officials hope the cover will keep leaked radioactive materials from spreading, prevent rainwater seepage and offer a barrier from further leaks. The tent is being erected to provide a temporary replacement for the No. 1 reactor's outer housing shell, which was destroyed in an explosion caused by high pressure the day after Japan's deadly earthquake and tsunami on March 11.

Earthquake jolts northeastern Japan

NEW YORK (AP)—The U.S. Geological Survey reports that a strong earthquake has shaken northeastern Japan, the same region devastated by the massive quake and tsunami in March. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage, and no tsunami warning was issued. The U.S.G.S. reports a magnitude of 5.9 quake struck at 3:23 a.m. Friday local time off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture. The epicenter was about 11 miles (18 kilometers) east-southeast of Iwaki on Honshu Island, 114 miles (184 kilometers) northeast of Tokyo.

India's parliament stalls as major issues await

NEW DELHI (AP)—Screaming matches over corruption have again paralyzed India's parliament, stalling crucial work on its malnutrition crisis and land reforms and deepening concerns over whether anyone is running the world's largest democracy.

For nearly two weeks, opposition lawmakers have halted nearly all legislative work in a repeat of their winter session protests, weakening Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's already embattled government and its push to turn India into a major global power.

The sense of political despair was heightened last week when Congress Party chief Sonia Gandhi—seen as the nation's top powerbroker—left the country for medical treatment for an unnamed illness. She named her son to help run the party in her absence, further undermining Singh by rekindling speculation Rahul Gandhi was being groomed to take his place.

Singh had been viewed as a man of uncommon integrity as he led the ruling coalition to an unexpectedly strong re-election victory in 2009 that many hoped

would give him a mandate for further economic reforms. But his government was quickly beset by scandals over the shady sale of the mobile telephone spectrum and last year's Commonwealth Games, which together lost the country as much as \$40 billion, according to government auditors.

"In the last 26 months since the government took over, there has been little or no governance," said Omkar Goswami, an economist and corporate adviser who serves on the boards of companies like

Infosys and Cairn India.

"The country is running on the entrepreneurial drive of people, but there is no governance. So many scams have surfaced in the past year, that no official wants to take a decision; no minister wants to stand up and be counted."

Indians have grown weary of both Singh and parliament. A poll by an Indian think tank that was published this week in The Hindu newspaper showed 60 percent of respondents think the government is "somewhat" or "very" corrupt.

Female bombers hit Pakistani police at blast site

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—A teenage girl wearing a suicide vest and a woman attacked Pakistani police guarding the scene of an earlier explosion in the northwest on Thursday, twin strikes that killed five people and broke a relative lull in militant violence in the country.

Islamist extremists with links to al-Qaida have waged a bloody campaign against Pakistan's pro-Western rulers since 2007, targeting police, government and Western targets. Up to

35,000 people have been killed, raising fears abroad over the stability of the nuclear-armed nation.

In the first attack Thursday, a remote-controlled bomb exploded in Peshawar's Lahori Gate area as a police truck carrying constables about to start their shift drove by. Four police officers and a boy passing by were killed, while 22 people were wounded.

An hour later, a woman and a girl approached the police

guarding the area. One of the females threw a grenade, then was able to partially detonate her suicide vest, said Shafqat Malik, a police officer with the bomb disposal unit.

The woman appeared to be 16 or 17 years old, he said. They both died in the blast.

"I thought the girl was pregnant as she was walking slowly with another woman. As I tried to push people away, suddenly a blast took place," said police officer Himayat Ullah, who was

wounded in the attack.

Compared to other periods over the last four years, Pakistan has seen few large militant attacks over the last two months. Even with this lull, however, no one has suggested that the country's stretched and poorly trained security forces were making progress in the fight.

Most of the militants are based in the northwest close to Afghanistan, and Peshawar—the largest town in the region—has been frequently hit.

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Syrian troops kill 11 in restive town near Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP)—The Syrian army shot dead 11 people in a western town near the Lebanese border on Thursday and stormed a northwestern town near Turkey's border, activists said. The shooting in the western town of Qusair also wounded many others, according to several Syrian human rights and activists groups. Anti-government protests are common in Qusair and, combined with the early morning assault on the town of Saraqeb near the Turkish border, reflected the determination of President Bashar Assad to crush the five-month old uprising despite mounting international condemnation.

Mexico arrests trafficker accused of 600 killings

TOLUCA, Mexico (AP)—Mexican police arrested the suspected leader of a brutal drug gang called "The Hand with Eyes" and he has confessed to helping carry out or ordering more than 600 murders, authorities said Thursday. Oscar Osvaldo Garcia Montoya, 36, was arrested in an overnight raid on a presumed safe house on the outskirts of Mexico City, State of Mexico Attorney General Alfredo Castillo said at a news conference. "The Hand with Eyes" is one of the groups blamed for bringing the drug violence typical of northern Mexico to Mexico City and its surrounding areas.

FBI aids Aruba investigation into missing American

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (AP)—Aruba has turned to the FBI for help investigating the disappearance of 35-year-old Robyn Gardner of Maryland, an agency spokesman said Thursday as official doubts grew about the story told by the suspect in the case. FBI Special Agent Richard Wolf told The Associated Press that the U.S. agency is conducting interviews and giving other assistance to Aruba, which is taking the lead in the investigation. He declined to provide details or say who was being interviewed. Gardner was reported missing Aug. 2 by traveling companion Gary V. Giordano, who is also from Maryland. The 50-year-old man told police that Gardner disappeared while they were snorkeling off the southern tip of the Caribbean island.

A tortured choice in famine: Which child lives?

DADAAB, Kenya (AP)—Wardo Mohamed Yusuf walked for two weeks with her 1-year-old daughter on her back and her 4-year-old son at her side to flee Somalia's drought and famine. When the boy collapsed near the end of the journey, she poured some of the little water she had on his head to cool him, but he was unconscious and could not drink.

She asked other families traveling with them for help, but none stopped, fearful for their own survival.

Then the 29-year-old mother had to make a choice that no parent should have to make.

"Finally, I decided to leave him behind to his God on the road," Yusuf said days later in an interview at a teeming refugee camp in Dadaab, Kenya. "I am sure that he was alive, and that is my heartbreak."

Parents fleeing the devastating famine on foot—sometimes with as many as seven children in tow—are having to make unimaginably cruel choices: Which children have the best chance to survive when food and water run low? Who should be left behind?

"I have never faced such a dilemma in my life," Yusuf told The Associated Press. "Now I'm reliving the pain of abandoning my child. I wake up at night to think about him. I feel terrified whenever I see a son of his age."

Dr. John Kivelenge, a mental health officer for the International Rescue Committee at Dadaab emphasizes the extreme duress Somali mothers and fathers are facing.

"It is a normal reaction to an abnormal situation. They can't sit down and wait to die together," he said. "But after a month, they will suffer post-traumatic stress disorder, which means they will have flashbacks and nightmares."

"The picture of the children they abandoned behind will come back to them and haunt them," he said. "They will also have poor sleep and social problems."

The United States estimates that more than 29,000 Somali children under age 5 have died in the famine in the last three months. An unknown number too weak to walk farther have been abandoned on the sandy trek to help after food and water supplies ran out.

Faduma Sakow Abdullahi, a 29-year-old widow, attempted the journey to



Somalis from southern Somalia carrying their belongings make their way to the refugee camp in Mogadishu, Somalia, Thursday Aug. 11, 2011.

Dadaab with her baby and other children ages 5, 4, 3 and 2. A day before she reached the refugee camp, her 4-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son wouldn't wake up after a brief rest.

Abdullahi said she did not want to "waste" the little water she had in a 5-liter container on dying children when the little ones needed it.

Nor did she want to wait for too long until her other children started dying, so she stood up and walked away a few paces—then returned in the hopes the youngsters were in fact alive.

After several back-and-forth walks, she finally left her two children under a tree, unsure whether they could be resuscitated.

More than 12 million people in East Africa are in need of food aid because of the severe drought. The U.N. says 2.8 million of those are in need of immediate lifesaving assistance, including more than 450,000 in Somalia's famine zones.

Ahmed Jafar Nur, a 50-year-old father of seven, was traveling with his 14-year-old son and 13-year-old daughter to Kenya. But after only two days of walking, they ran out of water. By the third day, they could only sit beneath a big tree—thirsty, hungry and exhausted.

"The two children could not walk on anymore. Then instead of us all dying there, I was forced to leave them to their fate, especially after I thought of the other five children and their mother I left behind at home. I said to myself, 'Save your life for the interest of the five others. These two have their God,'" he said.

"That was the worst thing I experienced in my life. It was a heartbreaking experience to abandon my children who are part of myself," he said. "For almost three months, my mind was not stable. Their images were in front of me."

Miraculously, the two teenagers were saved by nomads, and they have since made their way back to their mother in

Somalia. But Nur said he can't afford to bring the rest of his family to Kenya because it cost too much.

"I was a farmer and had no education that can help me now get jobs. We depend on handouts," he said. "My mind is preoccupied with them: Will they all die, including their mother, or will some survive? That is what I always ask myself."

When Faqid Nur Elmi's 3-year-old son died of hunger and thirst on the road from Somalia, his mother could only surround his body with small dried branches to serve as a grave. She couldn't stop to mourn—there were five other children to think about.

"Where will I get the energy to dig up a grave for him?" she asked. "I was just thinking of how I can save the rest of the children. The God who gave me him in the first place took him away. So I didn't worry much about the late son. Others' lives were at risk."

Libyan rebels claim victory in key oil terminal

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)—Libyan rebels battling Moammar Gadhafi's troops along the country's Mediterranean coast said they captured a key oil terminal Thursday that has repeatedly changed hands in the 6-month-old civil war.

Rebel spokesman Mohammed al-Rijali said he was with the fighters in Brega when they gained control of the strategic port city, 125 miles (200 kilometers) southwest of the de-facto rebel capital of Benghazi, after three weeks of intense fighting.

"Brega is liberated," al-Rijali told The Associated Press after nightfall.

Al-Rijali, who spoke over the telephone from nearby Ajdabiya, didn't provide any details or a casualty toll. His claim could not be immediately verified. Officials in the Libyan capital Tripoli made no comment on the rebel claim.

Brega fell under rebel control briefly in March, but was recaptured by Gadhafi's

forces shortly afterward. The fighting around the city has gone back and forth since then, with the rebels not managing to keep their ground.

Brega's capture would be an important boost for the rebels because whoever controls the strategic oil terminal, which is also Libya's second-largest hydrocarbon complex, is in charge of the country's main oil fields.

Another rebel spokesman, Mohammed al-Zawawi, said earlier Thursday that two rebels died in the day's fighting in Brega, while 16 others were wounded.

Libya's civil war has been deadlocked for months despite NATO's airstrikes to protect civilians.

The revolt began in mid-February, with the rebels quickly wresting control of much of the eastern half of the country, as well as pockets in the west.

The conflict later settled into a stalemate with the rebels failing to budge the

front lines in the east since April.

However, in recent weeks, rebels based in the western Nafusa mountains have made some gains, advancing toward Gadhafi-held towns along the coast.

On Thursday, hundreds of rebel fighters seized control of Nasser City, a small town about 16 miles (25 kilometers) south of the coastal town of Zawiya, after several hours of battle. Nasser City is the closest rebels have come to Tripoli, Gadhafi's main stronghold. Zawiya is just 30 miles (50 kilometers) west of the Libyan capital.

The streets of Nasser City were deserted and shops were shuttered, witnesses said. At one point, rebel fighters stopped at an abandoned gas station and filled up the tanks of their pickup trucks.

Video footage showed one rebel fighter climbing upon an earth mover to pull down a string of green pro-Gadhafi flags

suspended from electricity poles. Another threw a green flag from a second floor balcony, replacing it with the rebels' tricolor. "Nasser City has been liberated," he shouted.

The rebels hope to first capture towns near Tripoli, before launching an offensive on the capital, commanders have said.

Two rebel fighters were killed and one wounded in the battle for Nasser City, said Mohammed Salem, a hospital medic in Zintan, a rebel-held town south of the front line.

Capturing both Brega or Zawiya would mark a significant gain in the Libyan rebels' goal to topple the Gadhafi regime.

"It will be a huge morale victory," said Fawzi Bukatef, a Brega rebel operations chief and head of the Coalition of Revolutionary volunteers and civilians who fight at the front lines.

YoungStyle

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—Xavier Montjoy sits on his bed in a T-shirt and shorts, his side-swept blond bangs and dark-rimmed glasses framing squinted hazel eyes and furrowed brows. He's trying to recount how his parents recently explained that Sept. 11, 2001, had meaning beyond being the day he was born, but all he remembers at the moment is that they said something about planes crashing in three parts of the country.

In his life, he says, it's just not a big deal.

Like the millions of children born in the past decade, he's never known a world untouched by that day's terrorist attacks. He's played baseball and soccer and hates math like generations before him but is growing up in a new normal shaped by the events of that day and the people behind them. In this world, the military has deployed several of his relatives overseas, and security officers maintain tighter border security and enforce travel restrictions that leave fliers standing in security lines in socks or bare feet at the airport near his house on a tree-lined Columbus street.

As for Osama bin Laden, the boy says, who was he? Xavier remembers hearing about bin Laden's death the day after it happened, when he says classmates announced "Obama is dead!" and a teacher clarified it wasn't the president. If further explanation followed, it didn't resonate with Xavier.

"I didn't really know what he was talking about," he says. "And frankly, I didn't really care, 'cause I had no idea."

There are more important things to this laid-back kid, such as what's for dinner or which villains he can slay in his Wii games. He'd much rather tell visitors about the modified weapons he imagines and sketches than talk about what happened on his birthday.

Of the 13,238 children born in the United States that Sept. 11, Greg and Nikki Montjoy's first child was among the earliest, clocking in at Mt. Carmel St. Ann's Hospital when the day was 67 minutes old. They were first-time parents, unsure of what to expect, but found it odd later that morning when no relatives visited and the staff started to seem evasive and limit the infant's time outside the nursery. Finally, a nurse urged his mother to wake her sleeping husband and turn on the television.

Nikki Montjoy cradled her infant as she watched images of the smoking twin towers. The events had prompted a lockdown at the hospital, blocking the Montjoys' visitors, she said. Once allowed in, the family crowded into her room, shut off the TV and turned their attention to Xavier.

"Everyone wanted to be with this baby because that's what we were all kind of cling-



This July 11, 2011 picture shows Xavier Montjoy, center, with his father, Greg, left, younger sister, Isabella, and mother, Nikki, at their home in Columbus, Ohio.

Life of Ohio boy born on 9/11 shows new normal

By **KANTELE FRANKO**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ing to, was that we had a good day," she said.

Her husband recalls a nurse visiting the room and asking whether they'd heard the big news.

"I said, 'Yeah. We had a baby,'" he said.

Nikki Montjoy said the attacks cast a shadow of mortality over her first weeks as a mom, and she kept Xavier extra-close, worrying about how long she'd be with him and what would happen if, say, someone stole a plane at the airport nearby.

Her biggest realization about how the world had changed came six months later on a trip to Chicago. She remembers airport security officials requiring her to taste the food in her diaper bag, including the breast milk, and to undress her baby so his clothes could be searched.

"It was just strange, like you were in a foreign country," she said.

Her son hasn't flown since



In this July 11, 2011 picture, Xavier Montjoy plays a video game at his home in Columbus, Ohio. Montjoy was born hours before the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

then, but travel restrictions have caused hiccups in other family plans. At Niagara Falls this summer, they had to skip the Cana-

dian side because they couldn't get the required passport cards in time for the trip. It seemed silly to Xavier's parents, who had

visited as youngsters without needed extra documentation.

Days after the Niagara trip, and ahead of a scheduled interview with a reporter, Xavier's parents decided to have their first detailed talk with him about the terrorist attacks, something he had learned a bit about in school but hadn't asked about much. They sat down to talk with him after a family dinner, and he realized it was going to be a serious conversation when his grandfather, a Vietnam veteran, started to cry, Nikki Montjoy said.

Xavier's father, a 35-year-old unemployment insurance consultant, and mother, a 34-year-old student nurse, told him about al-Qaida, the Pentagon and New York but wanted to make clear that the day was not without moments of goodness. People on a fourth plane died sacrificing themselves to save others, they said.

They expected questions from their son, an inquisitive

boy who takes advanced classes at school. He wanted to know what happened to the people at ground zero.

"That was the first thing he clued in on: Well if all these people were stuck and they all died, did you find them? Where did they go?" his mother said.

The site became a memorial, his parents told him, the last resting place for some. He'd seen photos of it before, perhaps without realizing, in a picture flipbook his mother bought him during a trip to the Big Apple years ago.

Xavier said the conversation with his parents altered his perception of his birth date, though he can't quite put it into words.

"It changes, like, how I feel about my birthday," he said. "I don't know how."

Images of the attacks generate flashbacks and even tears for many adults, but not for Xavier. He has no such painful memories to trigger. For him, the day just seems to be history compared with the major events of his young life - the start of school and the birth of his sister, Isabella, now 5.

Learning his birth date makes some adults raise their eyebrows, but he shrugs it off.

"I just say, 'I was born on that day. I had no idea this had happened,'" he said.

It's a tough subject for youngsters to comprehend, including those who share Xavier's birthday.

"Now that they're 10, they understand that they do have a little bit of a weighty birthday, if you will, and I think that they kind of understand that their birthday has two parts," one of celebration, one not, said Christine Naman of Monroeville, Pa., whose son was born on Sept. 11 and who put together a book about such children.

Her family makes sure to take time out from birthday festivities to remember the significance of what happened, she said.

In Ohio, Xavier's parents refuse to let it become a day of melancholy instead of merriment in their home, planning a birthday party each year.

"It's a good thing for everyone," his mother said. Usually there's a theme, such as the "Harry Potter" or "Transformers" films, though he hasn't settled on one for this year.

The exception was his first birthday, when relatives traveled from out of town to attend a family-focused party on the first anniversary of the attacks. Xavier's parents asked guests to place their palms in paint and leave handprints on a basement stairwell wall, hoping it would remind their boy that even when bad things happened, there would be plenty of folks who love him and would try to make it better.

At the bottom, his mother said she printed a quote: "The hands of today mold the child of tomorrow."



ARE YOU A SHOE-IN TO SOLVE THIS ONE? Hidden in the above frame is a famous old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around it clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the "S" in the left-hand rail: "Strike while the iron is hot."

A SENSITIVE STUMPER! Replace the letters on our sun worshiper's chest with the digits 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, so that you will have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. Try to get the highest total possible.

Our answer: T=8, H=6, M=2, E=0, S=7, U=3, N=4, B=9, R=5 (8620 + 734 = 9354).

PUZZLES IN PARADISE! Pictured below are two puzzle grids to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in Grid B.

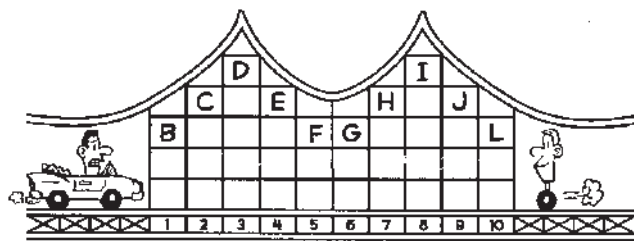
1. A military base.
2. A sudden attack
3. A tasty food store.
4. Great Dutch cheese.



Answers: 1. Post-hops, 2. Raid-and, 3. Delilled, 4. Edam-made



A WORD BRIDGE



Illustrated by David Coulson

The bridge above contains 10 supporting words. We give you the first letter of each word, plus plenty of hints.

1. Sleeps in the daytime.
2. To persuade by pleading.
3. Beverage for a nervous person.
4. End-of-term ordeal.
5. A wind mover.
6. Slang for sailor.
7. To pay attention to.
8. Extremely angry.
9. Triangular sails.
10. Smoked salmon.

Answers: 1. Bat, 2. Coax, 3. Decal, 4. Exam, 5. Fan, 6. Gob, 7. Head, 8. Irate, 9. Jibs, 10. Lox

Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was American ventriloquist and comedian Willie Tyler who made the following sage observation: "The reason lightning doesn't strike twice in the same place is that the same place isn't there the second time."

■ Even flight attendants have their own patron saint, as declared by Pope Paul XXIII in 1962: Saint Bona of Pisa.

■ Many people believe that the Gutenberg Bible, which came from the presses of Johannes Gutenberg in the 1450s, is the first example of a printed book, but that's not true; it's the first book printed using movable type. The oldest known printed book is actually the "Diamond Sutra," which was printed in China more than 550 years before the Gutenberg Bible.

■ In many Middle Eastern cultures, it is traditional to celebrate a wedding with five events. The first is the engagement party, during which the bride-to-be changes clothes several times. When the bride and groom sign the marriage contract there is another party, again with numerous changes of clothing by the bride. The day before the wedding there is a henna party, during which the bride and others are painted with elaborate designs that are thought to ward off evil spirits. The reception takes place after the wedding, and guests are often given five almond pieces, each piece symbolizing one of the sacred wedding wishes: health, happiness, wealth, longevity and fertility. Seven days after the wedding is the final celebratory event, known as sabaa, which is for women only and is analogous to the wedding shower we have in the West.

■ The town of North Pole, Alaska, is actually 1,700 miles south of the planet's geographical North Pole.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "The nice thing about ego-tists is that they don't talk about other people."—Lucille S. Harper

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MAGIC MAZE • VANISHED COMPANIES

Y C Z L S W T A Q N K I F C Z
W U P A I N E W E B B E R P
W O O L W O R T H I M J I E C Z
X U S Q E R D A N N L N J G E
C Z X V C N T R E A O R P N L
J H E A O E O C A T M A Y W M
V T R P M N L I T D S L K I A
G E C B P Z X U L W N R L U N
S R P O A I H P L E D A A U A
M L J I Q F I C M O C S T E P
G E N A E R O L E D D B A S B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Adelphia E.F. Hutton Pan Am Standard Oil
Bear Stearns Enron Pets.com TWA
Compaq MCI Pullman Woolworth
DeLorean PaineWebber RCA

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

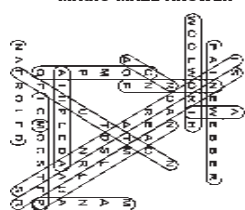
DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	x		+		25			
+		÷		-				
	÷		+		11			
x		x		x				
	+		+		12			
12		10		12				
1	2	4	4	5	6	7	8	9

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MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



VANISHED COMPANIES

GO FIGURE ANSWER

12	10	12	12	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1
12	6	5	+	1	6	5	+	1

To crate or not to crate?

Q: What's your view of kennel cages? My wife hates the idea of using one to train our dog Sandy, but I disagree. What do you say?—Jerry in Las Cruces, N.M.

A: I'm personally OK with the concept of crating (or "kennel cages"). It's an effective way to housetrain a puppy (who won't soil a sleeping or living area) and teaches it to stay comfortable and relaxed in a similar container, the travel crate, which is essential to traveling with your dog.

However, I do see frequent instances where the crate is misused, with negative consequences for dog and owner alike.

The crate also serves as a home or den for your dog. So it always has to be seen by Sandy as a safe place to be, perhaps the safest place in the house for her. If you use the crate to punish Sandy, such as shutting her up in it when she's being hyperactive or disobedient, she could associate it with negative feelings and avoid going into it.

I recommend you learn as much as you can about using the crate to train Sandy. The American Dog Trainers Network has a list of tips on furnish-



ing the crate, getting her to accept it and using it as a positive training tool. Find the list here: <http://www.inch.com/~dogs/cratetraining.html>. It also includes important safety tips, such as always removing Sandy's collar before putting her into the crate, and making sure she's not left in an environment that's too hot or freezing cold.

■ ■ ■

Send your question or comment to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet care-related advice and information, visit www.pawscorner.com.

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Make summer sand candles

Like most people, I enjoy taking long walks on the beach. I love the feel of sand under my feet and the way it stretches for miles before me. And then I suddenly feel inspired, thinking of the ways sand can be used in decor and crafts. That's when I know it's time to go home and have some more fun.

Here's a popular sand craft kids enjoy at day camp year after year. The adults melt the wax and the kids create the molds and add decorations for state-of-the-art sand candles. With a child's touch, they're whimsical, spontaneous and useful.

To make candles at home, you'll need:

- Clean damp sand in a bucket or sandbox
- 1 pound box of paraffin wax (available in canning section at most markets)
- 1 saucepan
- 1 tin can, such as a large soup can with lid removed. (Pinch rim of the can with pliers to form a spout for easy pouring)
- Candle coloring or stubs from colored candles (optional)
- Candle wicking (available at craft stores)
- Pencil or sticks
- Tiny trinkets, stones or shells (optional)

Here's the fun:

1. Carve out a 2-3 inch depression in the damp sand, about 3-4 inches wide. Pat the sides and base of the depression to make a very firm mold for your candle. Press several trinkets into the mold, if you wish.

2. Meanwhile, an adult should fill a saucepan with a few inches of water and set the tin can in the center. Put a chunk of paraffin in the can and add candle stubs or coloring, if you wish. As the water gets hot, the wax will melt. Stir occasionally, keeping a constant eye on it, since it is flammable.

3. An adult should carefully pour the melted wax into the sand mold. While

Donna's Day Creative family fun
by Donna Erickson



the wax is still liquid, place a length of wicking down the center of the mold with at least one inch of wicking exposed at the top. Hold the wick in place until the wax begins to harden. Then, prop the wick with a stick until the wax is completely hard. Or, tie the wick around the middle of a pencil and let it rest across the top of the mold with the wick in the wax.

4. When hard, gently lift the candle out of the sand mold. Brush off excess sand from the candle and embedded trinkets with an old toothbrush, leaving some sand on the surface for a natural look.

Note: An adult should always be present when burning candles.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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GoodHousekeeping

THIS IS A HAMMER

Fixing a slamming door

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
2011 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: My front door swings open and shut way too quickly. This means when my son pushes the door open, it bangs against the doorstep on the wall so hard I'm afraid it will crack the drywall behind it. And when he swings it shut, it slams. How can I fix this (besides teaching my son to be more conscientious about how he enters the house)?—Ellen D., Philadelphia

A: There are a couple of things you can try. To slow down the swinging, remove the pin from the top hinge of the door. Your son can be your helper by holding the door in place while you stand on a safe stepladder to take out the pin. Wrap the pin in clear tape—just one thin layer. Reinsert into the top hinge, and test the door. If this doesn't slow down the swing, wrap one more layer around the pin. This should create enough friction to stop the super-fast, free swing. You may need to reapply tape after several months, however. If the door banging shut is too loud, try using foam weather stripping to cushion the frame. Adhesive-backed foam stripping is available at home improvement stores in different widths. Try the thinnest width available. Pre-test the stripping before gluing it down. With the paper backing still on, unroll the strip along the inside of the door frame where the door closes against it. Put a little clear tape at the top and bottom to hold it, and test the door. Does it shut easily, or do you have difficulty getting it to latch with the strip in place? If it's difficult, and you have the thinnest weather stripping available, try placing a small half-inch long piece at the top and bottom of the door frame and test the door again. This small amount of stripping should muffle the noise somewhat.

HOME TIP: Does your door stick or lightly scrape the floor when you open it? Tape a piece of sandpaper to the area and push the door back and forth over it to try and sand down the bottom of the door a bit.

Send your questions or home tips to ask@thisisahammer.com, or write *This Is a Hammer*, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. When in doubt as to whether you can safely or effectively complete a project, consult a professional contractor.



To quickly form the meatballs for this turkey meatball lettuce wrap recipe use a mini ice cream scoop.

watch it carefully because you can easily overcook and it will be dry.

Turkey Meatball Lettuce Wraps

Serves: 4 / Preparation time: 15 minutes
/ Total time: 30 minutes

To quickly form the meatballs, use a mini ice cream scoop.
3 limes (2 juiced and 1 cut into wedges)
3 cups shredded carrots
{ cup fresh cilantro leaves, chopped, or mint leaves, thinly sliced, divided
2 green onions, thinly sliced
2 cloves garlic, peeled, finely chopped, divided
1 teaspoon plus 1 tablespoon lower-sodium fish sauce, divided
1 \ teaspoons sugar, divided
{ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, divided
1 package (19.2 ounces) lean (93 percent) or extra-lean (97 percent) ground turkey breast
12 Boston lettuce leaves
3-4 tablespoons sweet chili sauce, optional

If using bamboo skewers, soak them in cold water. Prepare outdoor grill for direct grilling on medium-high. Or pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees.

Place the lime juice in a medium bowl (you should have about \ cup). Set the lime wedges aside.

Add the carrots, half the cilantro or mint, green onions, \ teaspoon garlic, 1 teaspoon fish sauce, \ teaspoon sugar and \ teaspoon pepper. Stir; let stand.

In a large bowl, combine the turkey, remaining 1 tablespoon of the fish sauce, 1 teaspoon sugar, \ teaspoon pepper, the rest of the cilantro or mint and garlic. Shape tablespoons of the mixture into meatballs. Arrange on skewers, { - inch apart, and flatten slightly.

Grill meatballs 4 to 5 minutes or until grill marks appear and meat loses its pink color and is cooked through, turning occasionally.

Divide meatballs and carrot mixture among lettuce leaves. Drizzle with the chili sauce, if desired, and serve with lime wedges.

Adapted from Good Housekeeping magazine, May 2011 issue. Analysis based on 93 percent lean turkey without the sauce.

230 calories (27 percent from fat), 7 grams fat (2 grams sat. fat), 15 grams carbohydrates, 27 grams protein, 415 mg sodium, 66 mg cholesterol, 4 grams fiber.

Grill turkey meatballs with Asian flair

By SUSAN M. SELASKY
DETROIT FREE PRESS

In magazines and catalogs, meatballs seem to be the stars this summer. They don't quite strike me as a summertime food or even a main dish. I tend to think of them as appetizers, but meatball recipes keep popping up. And flipping through the Sur La Table catalog, I spotted a grill basket designed for grilling meatballs.

(You can pick one up for \$9.99 at At Sur La Table stores at the Mall at Partridge Creek in Sterling Heights or Somerset in Troy.)

I squirreled away today's recipe from the May issue of Good Housekeeping magazine. It caught my eye because of the fresh ingredients (mint, carrots, limes).

And you can make it in less than 30 minutes, including rolling the meatballs.

It has Asian flair with the addition of fish sauce or nuoc cham, a salty condiment made from fermented anchovies. Look for it in the Asian foods section of the market. For this recipe, if you don't have fish sauce, use reduced-sodium soy sauce.

This recipe is a different take on the lettuce wraps that are popular at restaurants like P.F. Chang's. Instead of using cooked ground meat, you make meatballs, grill them and serve them in Bibb or Boston leaves. These lettuces, also known as butter lettuces, are softer and more pliable than the crunchy iceberg typically used for lettuce wraps. Plus, butter lettuces are cup-shaped, so they hold the contents in place neatly. And because they are softer, it's a lot easier to wrap the filling in them as

well as to hold and eat them.

Don't stop at using these lettuces just for cooked meats. You can layer in thin, deli-style meats and cheeses, top with your favorite sandwich condiment and roll it all up. Or you can serve chicken, egg or seafood salads in lettuce cups.

Heads of butter lettuce are generally compact and smaller than iceberg lettuce. When ready to use, pull away each leaf, being careful not to tear it. Rinse the leaves well under cold water to remove any dirt and pat them dry.

When choosing ground poultry for this recipe, use lean or extra-lean ground turkey or chicken breast meat. Some turkey products show how lean it is on the package, and some will label it "white turkey." Color is a good indication of how lean the poultry is. If it's a lighter pink, it includes more white or breast meat. If you use the extra-lean turkey,

DOLLAR\$ AND SENSE

Cheaper ways to watch movies at home

By DAVID UFFINGTON
2011 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

For millions of families, the cost of movie night at home just went up. Netflix, the popular DVD rental company, unexpectedly raised its rates by as much as 60 percent last month. No longer can you get movies and all the streaming you want for one low price. Now the movies and the streaming have separate costs, and to get both the DVDs delivered to your door and streaming will cost more.

There are other ways to watch inexpensive movies, however, if you know where to look.

■ If you don't already have a means of streaming movies, check into the Roku [www.roku.com], a nifty little streaming

box. It comes in three levels: \$60, \$80 and \$100. Price is determined by high-definition level (720p or 1080p), but all come with built-in wireless. Be sure to hunt around the settings to see all that's offered with Roku—more than 300 channels with music, movies and shows.

Many of the services, such as Crackle, are free. Hulu Plus and Amazon offer inexpensive access to movies. Pandora, the movie channel, is free. You'll find EPIX movies and on-demand sports. Additionally, with Roku you'll have access (some free) to some international movies and television shows. And yes, you can access Netflix if you have the streaming option.

■ If you only want to stream to your computer or mobile phone, check Zediva [www.Zediva.com] for \$1.99 new movie rentals. And here's a bonus: You don't have to pay with a credit card on its site. You can pay with PayPal if you prefer. Bigger bonus: If you pay for a package of 10 movies, the cost drops to a dollar apiece. However, due to the way Zediva has set up its relationship with the movie studios, only a certain number of copies of a given movie are available at any one time. Read the FAQ to be sure you understand the limits.

■ If you're a parent and going to be in the market for a new DVD player

soon, consider getting one of the inexpensive combo DVD and VCR players. You can save money on the kids' movies by shopping yard sales, where you can find hundreds of older VHS movies for a fraction of the cost of the DVD version. (You'll also be less upset when the kids unwind a movie tape than you would be if they scratch a new DVD.)

David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Write to him in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

Life & Style

Congressman feuds with administration over movie

WASHINGTON (AP)—A movie about the hunt for Osama bin Laden, expected in theaters just weeks before the 2012 presidential election, is already generating a partisan political feud.

Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, says he's worried that the Obama administration will only be too happy to give sensitive details about the Navy SEAL mission to the Oscar-winning moviemakers behind the project.

White House spokesman Jay Carney suggests that King should have better things to do than complain about a movie.

King on Wednesday sought an investigation by the CIA and Pentagon inspectors general, wanting them to review the administration's cooperation with director Kathryn Bigelow and screenwriter Mark Boal, both Academy Award winners for the 2009 film "The Hurt Locker." The bin Laden movie will be distributed by Sony Pictures Entertainment.

King said too much information al-



White House Press Secretary Jay Carney gestures during his daily news briefing at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2011.

ready has leaked out about the Navy SEALs raid in May that killed bin Laden in Pakistan, and he noted that Pentagon officials have cautioned against further discussion of the mission.

Among other things, King asked the inspectors general to determine what consultations occurred in the administration about providing Hollywood with access to covert military operators and clandestine CIA officers.

Carney told reporters: "When people, including you in this room, are working

on articles, books, documentaries or movies that involve the president, ask to speak to administration officials, we do our best to accommodate them to make sure that facts are correct. That is hardly a novel approach to the media.

"We do not discuss classified information. And I would hope that as we face the continued threat from terrorism, the House Committee on Homeland Security would have more important topics to discuss than a movie."

Carney said information provided about the raid was focused on President Barack Obama's role and it's the same information given to anybody writing about the topic.

In an interview, King said, "People in the CIA reached out to me saying they were opposed to this." But he acknowledged that others in the spy agency were willing to cooperate.

"Most SEALs want to stay in the background," he said, and not "tip off the enemy of what they do and don't do."

King said he was not trying to take

credit away from the president.

"I, as much as anyone after the killing of bin Laden, gave full credit to the president," he said. "I knew this was an extremely tough decision. Top people in the administration were opposed to it. It was courageous, heroic and showed real leadership."

Bigelow and Boal say their movie will be nonpartisan.

"Our upcoming film project about the decade-long pursuit of bin Laden has been in the works for many years and integrates the collective efforts of three administrations, including those of Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama, as well as the cooperative strategies and implementation by the Department of Defense and the CIA," they said in a statement.

"Indeed, the dangerous work of find-

ing the world's most wanted man was carried out by individuals in the military and intelligence communities who put their lives at risk for the greater good without regard for political affiliation. This was an American triumph, both heroic and nonpartisan, and there is no basis to suggest that our film will represent this enormous victory otherwise."

Marine Col. Dave Lapan, a Defense Department spokesman, told reporters the film project is only in the script development phase.

"DoD is providing assistance with script research, which is something we commonly do for established filmmakers," Lapan said. "Until there is a script to review, and a request for equipment or other DoD support, there is no formal agreement for DoD support."

'So You Think You Can Dance' crowns champion

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Melanie Moore flew away with the grand prize on "So You Think You Can Dance."

Viewer votes awarded the pixie-haired 19-year-old college student from Marietta, Ga., the title of "America's Favorite Dancer" and the \$250,000 prize.

Moore bested 23-year-old runner-up Sasha Mallory of Bakersfield, Calif., and 22-year-old third-place finisher Marko Germar of Los Angeles on the Fox dancing contest's finale Thursday.

The powerful contemporary dancer was long considered the eighth season's front-runner. Host Cat Deeley said Moore picked up an impressive 47 percent of viewer votes.

She clinched the competition, mostly by mastering artful contemporary routines set to such tunes as Bonnie Tyler's "Total Eclipse of the Heart" and Ingrid Michaelson's "Turn to Stone."



In this image released by Fox, contestants from left, Marko Germar, Sasha Mallory, Melanie Moore and Tadd Gadduang, from the dance competition series "So You Think You Can Dance," are shown on Aug. 4, 2011 in Los Angeles.

Lawyer: 'Jeopardy!' burglary suspect a prostitute

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The lawyer for a San Francisco woman charged with breaking into the hotel room of "Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek says his client is a prostitute, not a thief.

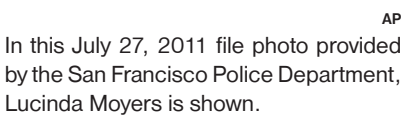
The San Francisco Examiner (http://bit.ly/pGJWS6) reports that attorney Mark Jacobs says his client, 56-year-old Lucinda Moyers, is a prostitute and was in a downtown San Francisco hotel to meet a john on July 26.

Prosecutors say Moyers stole \$650, a bracelet and other items from a hotel room where Trebek was staying with

his wife. The cash and bracelet were not recovered.

Moyers has pleaded not guilty to felony charges of burglary and possession of stolen property.

Trebek says he chased Moyers out of his room and tore his Achilles tendon. Jacobs says Moyers was not in Trebek's room.



In this July 27, 2011 file photo provided by the San Francisco Police Department, Lucinda Moyers is shown.

Police explode briefcase left for literary agent

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—A writer desperate to get a movie script read suffered the ultimate rejection Thursday when police blew up a briefcase he said contained the screenplay after an agent refused to read it, police said.

The bizarre story was set in Beverly Hills, where a man visited the office of the literary agent and left behind a briefcase that he said contained a computer, police Sgt. Brad Cornelius said.

The man left instructions for it to be delivered to someone at the business, who told another person in the office, "This guy's been kind of pestering me to read his stuff" and said he neither asked for nor wanted the briefcase, Cornelius said.

A security guard took the case into an alley, and a Los Angeles County sheriff's bomb squad was sent to investigate the suspicious package.

Officials sealed off one square block and evacuated dozens of people from a handful of businesses on nearby Rodeo Drive and Santa Monica Boulevard before blowing open the briefcase, which contained no explosives.

Police detained the man suspected of leaving the briefcase and questioned him before he was released, Cornelius said. His name and other details were not immediately released.

Sales soar for books by new poet laureate

NEW YORK (AP)—The country wants to know more about its next poet-in-chief.

Sales have jumped for books by Philip Levine, a Pulitzer Prize winner who on Wednesday was named the U.S. poet laureate. Within a day of the Library of Congress' announcement, several of Levine's books had sold out on Amazon.com, including "News of the World" and "The Simple Truth."

E-book readers also will have to wait. Little of Levine's work, or of any poetry, is available electronically because verse is so difficult to format for digital devices. Lena Khidritskaya, a spokeswoman for Alfred A. Knopf, said the publisher planned to have e-editions for the collections "What Work Is" and "The Simple Truth" out by the end of the month and for many others by September.

The paperback of "What Work Is" ranked No. 110 on Amazon as of Thursday morning, a status rarely held by a book of poetry.

"It's amazing. It never occurred to me that would happen," Levine said

Thursday during a telephone interview from his home in Fresno, Calif. Levine, 83, who is known for his celebrations of the working class, wondered if the weak economy was a reason for the increased interest in his work.

"The same thing happened when 'What Work Is' won the National Book Award (in 1991)," he said. "It was also a time of great strife in the labor market."

Being poet laureate means Levine will likely get to meet President Barack Obama, among the most literary of presidents. Levine said he was a supporter of Obama in 2008 and was thrilled by his election. But he says he would have been happier to see the president right after his victory.

"The problem with meeting him now is I wouldn't exactly know how to relate to him. Like so many people who believed in what he would do, there is a disappointment," said Levine, citing the continued war in Afghanistan and Obama's agreement to extend the Bush-era tax cuts for the rich. "I wouldn't be rude, but it would be a kind of fraught situation."

Court reverses conviction of former NYC newsman

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP)—A domestic violence conviction that cost Dominic Carter an influential role as political anchor at the cable news outlet New York 1 has been reversed by an appeals court.

Carter is ecstatic and "looking forward to getting back into the world of journalism and political discussion," said his lawyer Julia Kuan.

The 46-year-old Carter was convicted in 2009 of attempted assault after his wife, Marilyn, told police he hit her. She recanted before trial, but Ramapo Town Judge Arnold Etelson called her story "preposterous." He also called Carter "a classic case of a domestic violence abuser."

Carter, who served 19 days in jail, had taken a leave from NY1 when the charges were made public. The station cut ties with him just before he was sentenced. His nightly "Inside City Hall" program was a mainstay for city politics junkies, and he had interviewed every major New York

City and state politician.

He returned to TV last month as a regular guest on RNN-TV, a regional cable news outlet, Kuan said.

The Appellate Division in Brooklyn reversed the conviction this week without getting into the circumstances of the case, saying Carter should never have been tried.

It said the judge originally ordered an adjournment in contemplation of dismissal, which would have resulted in dismissal of charges if Carter stayed out of trouble for a year. The appeals court said the judge should have denied a later prosecution request to go to trial.

Rockland County District Attorney Thomas Zugibe said prosecutors were exploring an appeal.

"It is important to note that the appeals court did not rule on (Carter's) culpability and did not base its decision on the merits of the charge or the sufficiency of the evidence," the district attorney said in a statement.



AP

In this June 24, 2010 file photo, Kiowa Gordon arrives at the premiere of "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse" in Los Angeles.

'Twilight' actor Gordon bails out of Ariz. jail

MESA, Ariz. (AP)—One of the actors who plays a werewolf in the "Twilight" movie series has been released from jail after he was picked up by Tempe, Ariz., police on warrants for failing to appear on a misdemeanor drunken driving and drug charge.

The Arizona Republic (<http://bit.ly/rgVEAK>) reports 21-year-old Kiowa Gordon posted \$1,000 bail to get out of a Maricopa County jail Wednesday morning. He was arrested Monday for failing to appear in other Phoenix area courts for previous drug and alcohol arrests.

Tempe police say Gordon was arrested after a routine license plate check turned up the outstanding warrants.

Gordon plays the character Embry in the "Twilight" series, one of the members of a Native American werewolf pack.

Concert to note anniversary of Monk Institute

NEW YORK (AP)—Herbie Hancock and Aretha Franklin will take part in the celebration of the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz's 25th anniversary.

A concert and a competition are the highlights of the two-day event in Washington on Sept. 11-12.

Hancock will be among the judges for the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Piano Competition, it was announced Thursday. The winner will receive a recording contract with Concord Music Group and a scholarship.

Franklin, who sang jazz early in her career at Columbia Records, is being honored with the Institute Founder's Award.

Monk was a jazz pianist and composer and considered one of the most important figures in the genre. The institute was founded in his memory and is dedicated to jazz education.



AP

In this July 26, 2010 file photo, Aretha Franklin is shown in Philadelphia.

Aguilera to perform at Jackson tribute concert



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Christina Aguilera is lending her voice to a Michael Jackson tribute concert planned for October in Wales.

Organizers of "Michael Forever—The Tribute Concert" announced Thursday that Aguilera would be joined by members of the Jackson family, Cee Lo Green, Leona Lewis and the band Alien Ant Farm, which is known for its cover of Jackson's song "Smooth Criminal."

The announcement came after more than two weeks of silence about performers for the Oct. 8 show at Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Wales.

While the event is endorsed by the singer's mother and some of his siblings, brothers Randy and Jermaine Jackson have protested its timing. The concert is scheduled during the trial of a doctor charged in Jackson's death.

The singer's estate is also not affiliated with the concert.

In this June 29, 2011 file photo, musician Christina Aguilera poses for photographers after finale of "The Voice" in Burbank, Calif.

Girl whiles away her summer waiting for the phone to ring

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am 12 years old and I have a boyfriend, "Zak." Since it's summer, we don't communicate with each other as much as usual. Most people would think we'd be more in touch, but since we're both on vacation, we haven't been. I always text his phone, but most of the time I never get an answer back. Or he'll text, "I'm busy, I'll text you later," or "Sorry, can't talk. I'll call you later." But he never does.

Not long ago, I talked to Zak on the phone for a short time and he said he'd call back the next day around noon. He never called at all that day. Sometimes I don't hear from him for days on end.

Do you think I'm overreacting? Do you think he thinks I'm annoying? Maybe he feels I'm obsessing over him, I'm pretty sure if he wanted to end our relationship he would just come out and say it, but do you think he really does but doesn't want to hurt me? Help, Abby!

CRAZY ABOUT HIM IN ARKANSAS

DEAR CRAZY: Zak appears to be a normal adolescent boy who has many interests—and possibly parents who keep him busy. That would account for his not calling you later or returning your texts.

Rather than worrying about why he's not performing up to your expectations, you should develop some other interests and activities so you won't have so much time to worry about Zak. That way you'll appear less needy, clingy and insecure, and you'll be more attractive and interesting to be around once school starts again.

And one more thing: Think positive! Dwelling on the negative will only make you feel more unhappy and insecure than you're feeling right now.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Last fall, a horrible car accident claimed the life of a young local man. A roadside memorial of wreaths and memorabilia was erected. Since then, no one has tended the site, and the elements have taken their toll on it. The offerings look like litter now. Would it be appropriate to remove the battered items? Or would a respectful cleanup of the site be in poor taste?

PASSERBY IN MAINE

DEAR PASSERBY: Roadside memorials are usually placed there by the family or friends of the deceased, who also tend to them. They are sometimes removed by street cleaning or highway maintenance crews when they have reached the stage you have described. A report made to the city or state department that's in charge of maintaining the road would be better than attempting to do the job on your own, and also safer.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My sister is an alcoholic and prescription drug abuser who causes a scene at every family gathering. There will be an important family event soon, and we don't want to invite her for fear she'll ruin it by showing up drunk or high. My mother is mad and says it's not right to ostracize my sister, and if she's not invited, my mother will not attend, either. What should we do?

NO DRAMA, PLEASE IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR NO DRAMA: You have two choices. Invite your sister with the clear understanding that if she shows up drunk or high, your mother will remove her from the premises and see she gets safely home. Or, refuse to give in to your mother's blackmail and tell her that if she chooses not to come, all of you will miss her. Period.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Miranda Cosgrove breaks ankle in tour bus accident

VANDALIA, Ill. (AP)—Actress and singer Miranda Cosgrove has broken her ankle in a tour bus accident in southern Illinois. Gina Schulman, a spokeswoman for the star of Nickelodeon's "iCarly," says the accident happened early Thursday on Interstate 70 near Vandalia, 70 miles northeast of St. Louis. Schulman says all five passengers on the bus "will be fine."

Schulman says Cosgrove's "Dancing Crazy Summer Tour" is postponed until further notice. Cosgrove was scheduled to perform Friday in Wichita, Kan., and Saturday in Denver.

She says, "Miranda thanks everyone for their understanding and support."

Cosgrove stars as Carly Shay, the daughter of a colonel serving overseas, on "iCarly." Her album is "High Maintenance." She also featured in "The School of Rock" and voiced the character Margo in "Despicable Me."



AP

In this April 11, 2011 file photo, Nickelodeon actress and singer Miranda Cosgrove arrives at ELLE magazine's second annual Women in Music event in Los Angeles.

DeGraw cancels more dates but sets return concert

NEW YORK (AP)—Singer Gavin DeGraw has canceled several more concerts so he can recover from injuries suffered in a street attack, but plans to be back performing by Aug. 24.

A statement sent out by his representative on Thursday said doctors had advised DeGraw to take more time to recover after being beaten up Sunday by an unknown group of men in New York City. He was hospitalized and sustained a concussion, broken nose, facial cuts and other injuries in the assault; police are still investigating and DeGraw has said he doesn't remember

much about it.

The cancellations include dates in Nashville, Chicago and Toronto. However, he will resume his tour with Train and Maroon 5 on Aug. 24 in Columbia, Md.

The 34-year-old singer-songwriter's hits include "Chariot" and "I Don't Want to Be."

In this Dec. 8, 2009 file photo, singer Gavin DeGraw attends the launch party for Vevo, a premium music video and entertainment experience, created by Universal Music Group, Sony Music Entertainment and YouTube, in New York.

AP



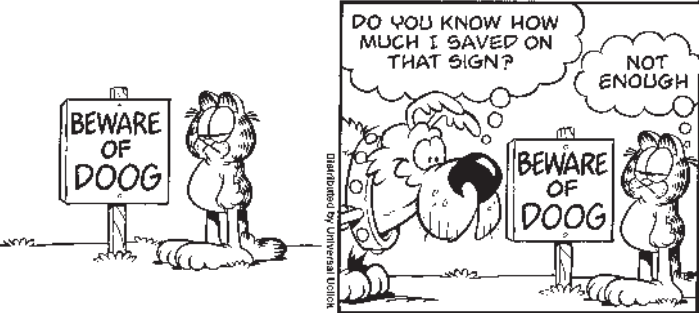
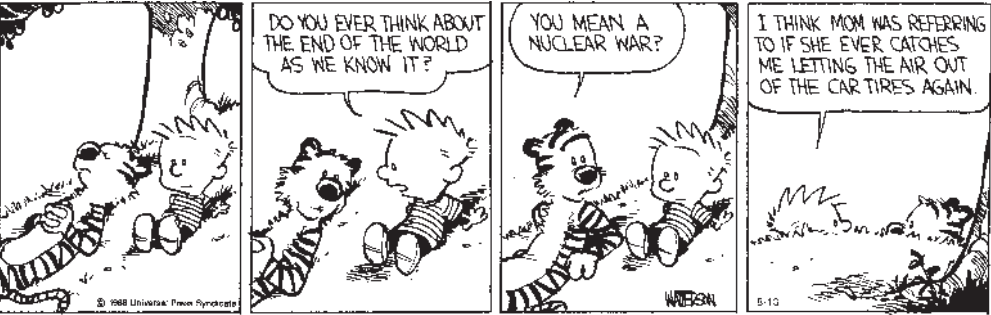
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

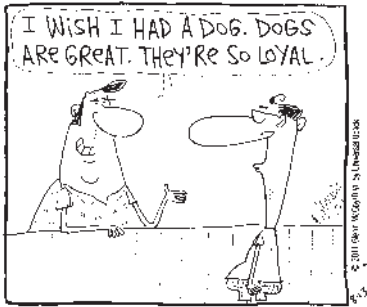
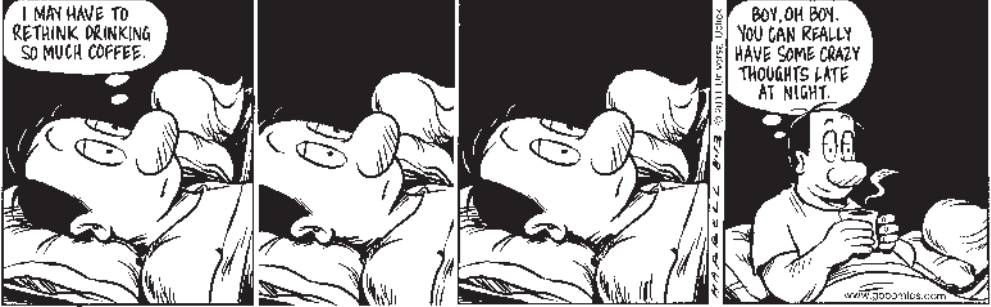


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Tic

6 Saxo-phonist Randolph

11 Moon-landing program

12 Conceive

14 Ban

15 Arrange-ment

16 Youngster

17 Barber-shop quartet member

19 Blond shade

20 — out (supple-ments)

22 PC alterna-tive

23 Hodge-podge

24 Actress Winona

26 Insanity

28 Fond du —

30 Meadow

31 Shower bottle

35 Racist

39 Prolong-ed sleep

40 Ming of basket-ball

42 Unusual

43 Lennon's lady

44 Susanna of The Bangles

46 Genetic matter

47 Drew a blank

49 Compels

51 Thick milkshake

52 On the beach

53 Plum relatives

54 Wacko

2 Trans-ferred software between machines

3 Priestly garment

4 Sexy skirt feature

5 Computer-phone link

6 Like Ben Franklin's glasses

7 Stench

8 "— the ramparts ..."

9 Mexican entree

10 Equilib-rium

11 Following

13 Group character

18 1970s war zone, for short

21 Alabama city

23 Where the elated walk

25 Knock

27 Society new-comer

29 Wolves' kin

31 Mock

32 Academic distinctions

33 Not knowing right from wrong

34 Lum-mox

36 Waiter in a French restau-rant

37 Cantan-kerous

38 Rib

41 Butcher's discard

44 Crosby's pal

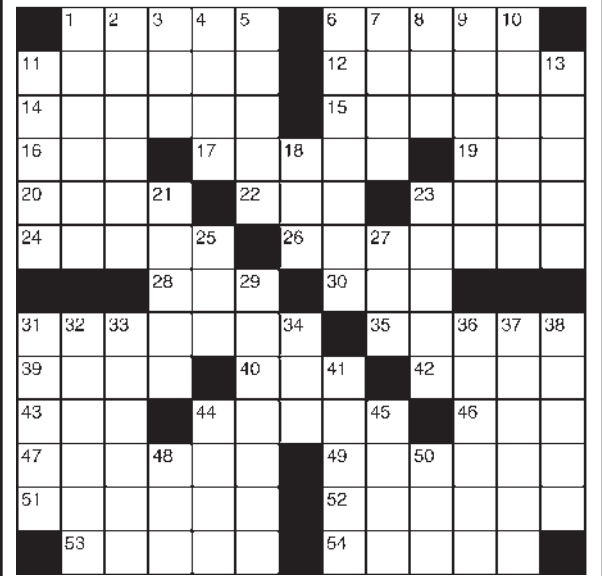
45 Mediocre

48 Mail HQ

50 Pi follower

Solution time: 27 mins.

Yesterdays answer 8-13



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5951. 99c per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shani Davis, 29; Debi Mazar, 47; John Slattery, 49; Dawnn Lewis, 50.

Happy Birthday: Align yourself with people who can contribute to your goals and who complement the way you do things. This is an aggressive year that will put you to the test and determine how much you have learned. There is no room for mistakes or trying to be something you are not. Put your best foot forward and focus on the finish line. Your numbers are 7, 10, 16, 21, 29, 35, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take control and take action. Set your plans in motion and prepare to enjoy the benefits of following your destiny. Don't waffle because someone is threatened by your choices and giving you a hard time. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Relax and enjoy your day peacefully at home and away from anyone who may cause you grief. Avoid overspending, overdoing and over-indulging. Working at something you enjoy or starting a new hobby will ease your stress and perk you up. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll come up with some workable plans that will suit you and the people to whom you are close. A project that can bring in extra cash or enable you to advance professionally should be penciled in. Love is in the stars, and a promise or change can be made. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't take on more than you have to. It's important that you do things that will en-

able you to make new acquaintances. Expect to experience delays or confusion while traveling or communicating with someone who has information you need. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Update your image or learn something that will help you change your professional or personal direction. The more willing you are to alter your current situation, the easier it will be to accept what's going on around you and move on. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let someone else's underhandedness stand in the way of your plans. Rise above whatever is going on in your professional life and you will outmaneuver anyone causing problems. Don't sulk or grime when you should be socializing and meeting new people. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take a moment to enjoy life. Plan to do something special with your lover, children or friends. Helping an organization you believe in will expand your circle of friends and improve your prospects for professional advancement. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Honesty is the best policy at home and at work. Don't make waves at home. It is best to take an easy approach to whatever unfolds and try to compromise and get along with the people around you. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You should be planning or taking a trip. The more engaged you are with foreign cultures or different lifestyles, the easier it will be to decide which path to take with regard to your

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



own life and emotional well-being. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't fall for a scam that promises you a fortune. Invest in simple but concrete plans that are not dependent on other people. Rethink your steps before you agree to a joint endeavor that has foreseeable problems. ***

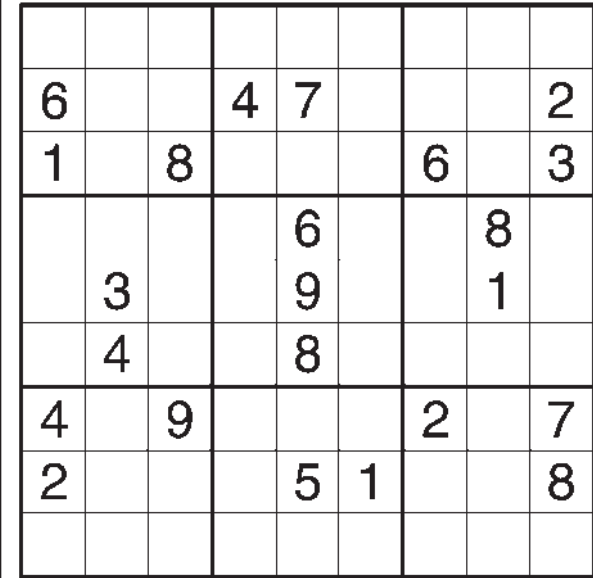
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on what will help your current personal and financial situation. A change to your living arrangements will open a door to greater freedom. Love is in the stars, and spending time with someone who can contribute to your life will grab your interest. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't take everything you hear at face value. Focus on how you can work hard to develop your skills into something you enjoy doing and that has the potential to bring you sizable returns. Don't allow love to cloud your vision. ***

Birthday Baby: You are charming, bright, compassionate, generous, outgoing and friendly. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

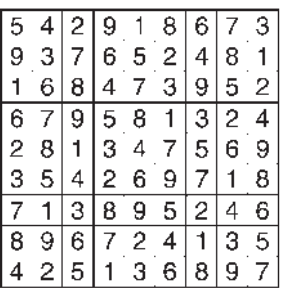
Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 8/13 ©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterdays SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

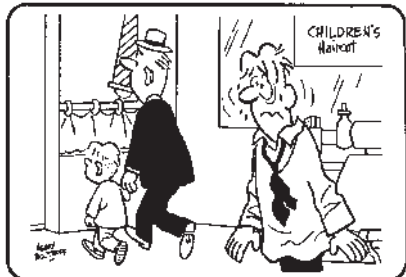
HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TRON (FILM) Solution: 12 letters

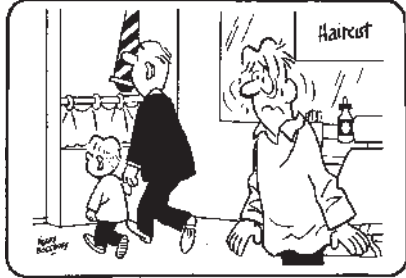


©2011 Universal Uclick. www.wonderword.com. Join us on Facebook. 8/13 Abduct, Alan, Allegory, Alter Ego, Animate, Arcade, Baines, Bradley, Canyon, Codes, Control, Corporation, Crom, Fire, Flynn, Force, Fraud, Frisbee, Game, Hack, Human, Kevin, Lapse, Laser, Lieutenant, Lightcycle, Lora, Maze, Missile, Music, On the Run, Participate, Ram, Sark, Security, Shor, Surrealism, Tank, Time, Tron, Users, Walter, World, Yori Yesterday's Answer: Remove Words: T, C, C, I, G, T, T, M, M, B, O, L, E, H, U, M, A, N, A, I, A, E, R, R, A, L, F, R, A, U, D, I, A, C, M, S, I, L, A, E, R, R, U, S, H, O, R, N, R, A, E, M, A, G, S, E, M, I, T, R, O, N, T, A, T, R, W, O, R, L, D, C, E, E, B, S, I, R, F, E, C, R, O, F, E, L, C, Y, C, T, H, G, I, L, A, Y, L, A, P, S, E, C, U, R, I, T, Y, L, Y, A, L, T, E, R, E, G, O, N, T, H, E, R, U, N, S, E, D, O, C, O, R, P, O, R, A, T, I, O, N

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



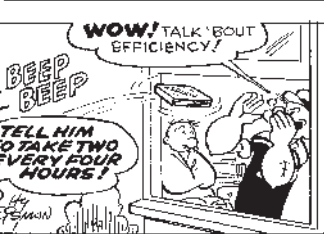
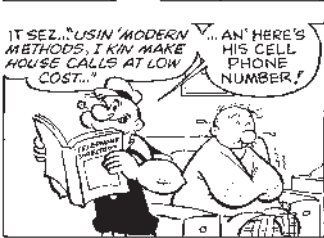
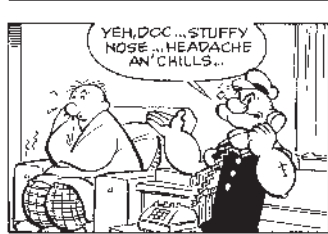
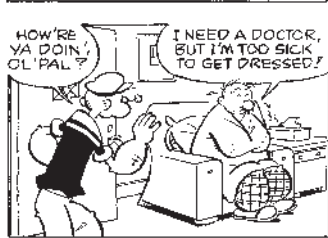
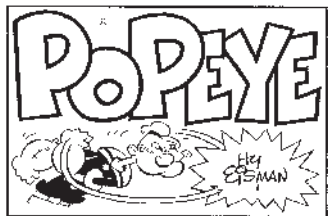
Write 1. Man has no tie. 2. Window sign is different. 3. Boy's pants are black. 4. Barber's shop pole is black-and-white. 5. Man's hat is different. 6. Bottle is different.

Wishing Well®

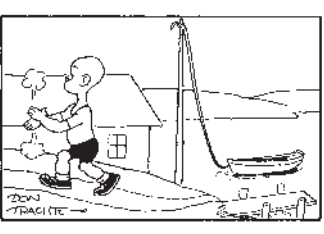
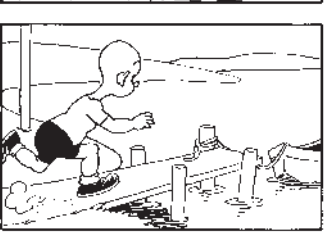
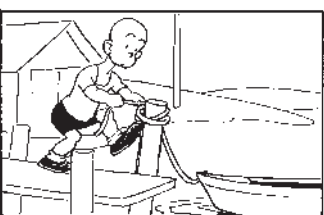
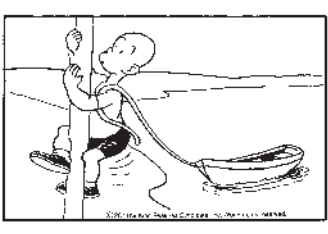
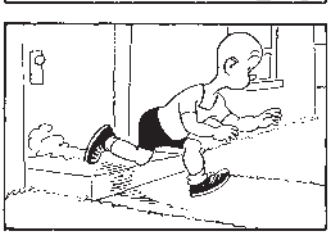
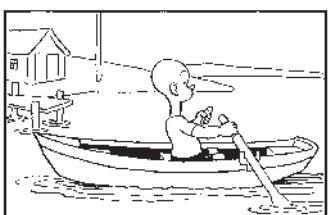
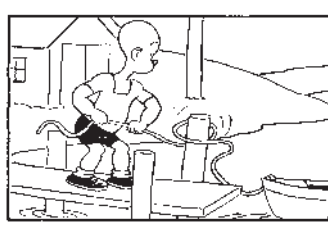
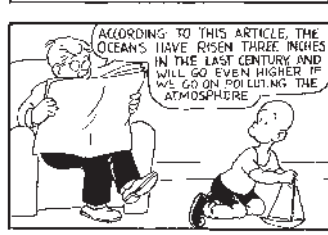
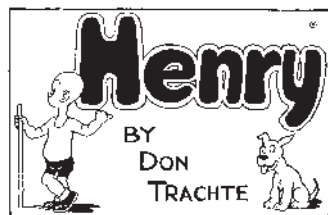
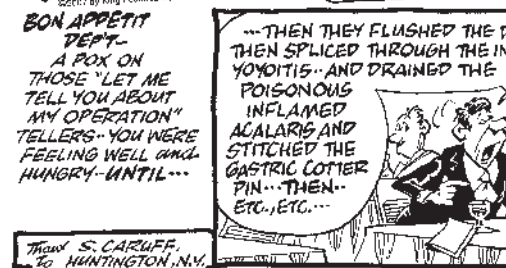
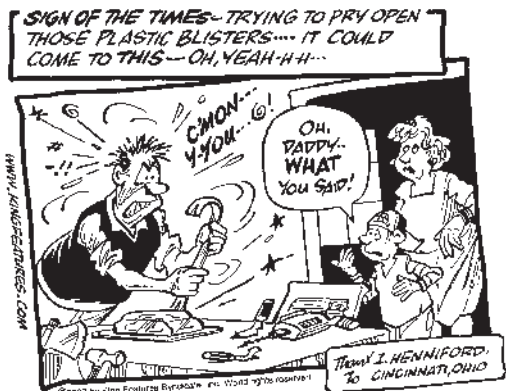
5	6	3	6	8	7	5	8	2	8	7	6	3
M	B	C	E	G	D	A	I	Y	V	E	A	H
7	5	7	5	4	5	2	7	4	8	2	8	3
M	I	A	N	S	T	O	N	K	E	U	Y	O
2	8	2	5	6	2	3	7	4	6	7	4	8
A	O	R	A	L	E	O	D	I	E	T	P	U
4	3	5	8	4	3	5	8	6	5	6	2	3
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3	7	8	5	8	3	8	2	8	2	8	2	8
L	T	P	E	R	Y	O	T	V	E	A	D	L

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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They'll Do It Every Time



Super Crossword

A PLUS

ACROSS

- 1 Buddy
- 4 Verne hero
- 8 Cantata composer
- 12 Goo
- 17 "corny as Kansas..."
- 19 Orenburg's river
- 20 Literary pseudonym
- 21 Like Schoenberg's music
- 22 Like Felix Unger?
- 25 Act like Holmes
- 26 "Card" ('90 film)
- 27 Comic Orson
- 28 Bungle
- 30 Sweater letter
- 31 On the nose
- 34 Skinny novelist?
- 39 Get on
- 40 Rocker Tom
- 41 Curly coif
- 42 "Saving Private Ryan" extras
- 45 Moflo or Magnani
- 47 Reggae's Peter
- 49 Offer an apple?
- 52 Pinnacle
- 54 Downs, to Donne

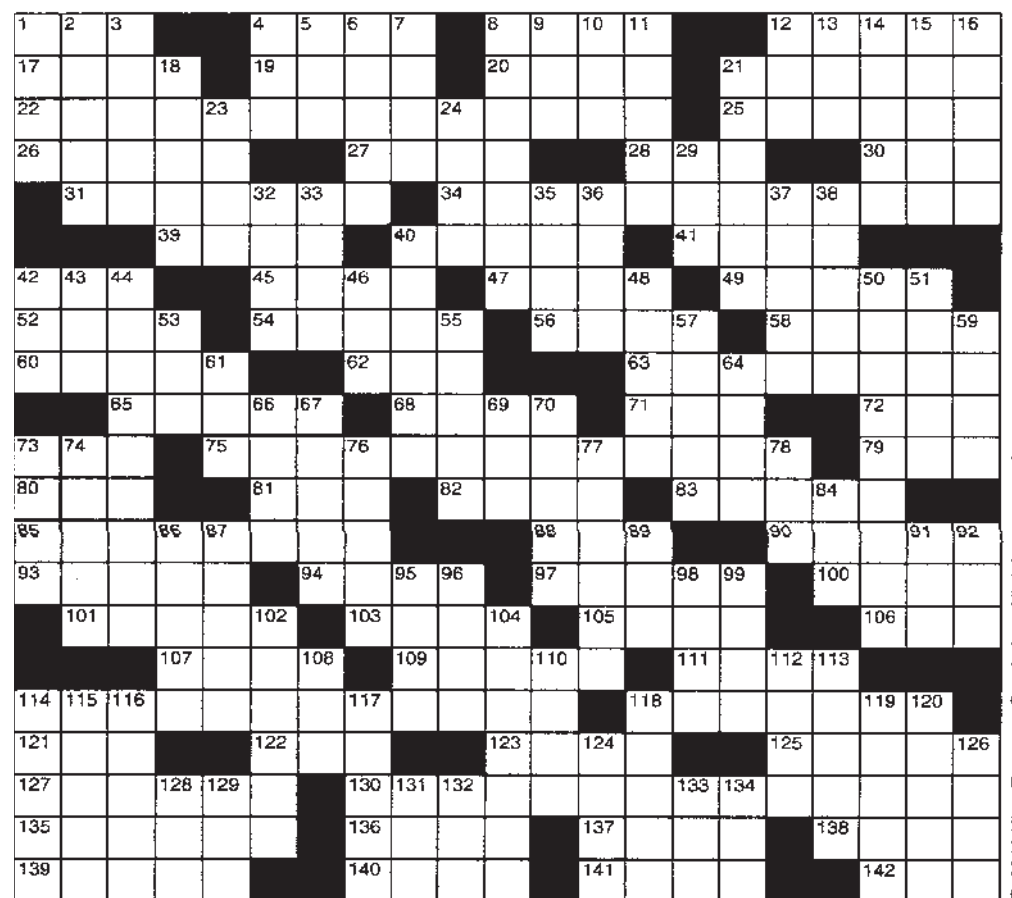
- 56 Coarse flour
- 58 "on My Pillow" ('58 song)
- 60 Still's partner
- 62 Tread the boards
- 63 Man from Munich
- 65 Ponderosa, for one
- 68 Mrs. Zeus
- 71 Mineral suffix
- 72 Sgt., e.g.
- 73 Gamble
- 75 Extremely encouraging individual?
- 79 Kitten's comment
- 80 Sharpton and
- 81 Hockey great
- 82 A sweeping success?
- 83 Calliope's sister
- 85 '66 Tommy Roe tune
- 88 Merino male
- 90 Shiva worshiper
- 93 Throw forcefully
- 94 "The Ramayana" heroine
- 97 Actress Samantha
- 100 Jury member
- 101 Economize

- 103 Calligraphy supply
- 105 Land in the sea
- 106 Longing
- 107 Jets, Mets, or Nets
- 109 Release
- 111 Hideaway
- 114 Dishonest anchorman?
- 118 New Jersey's Pine
- 121 Port: abbr.
- 122 Director
- 123 "Dies --"
- 125 Be of use
- 127 Bring to light
- 130 Corrupt college official?
- 135 Acid's opposite
- 136 Bronte heroine
- 137 ice-cream thickener
- 138 Writer Hunter
- 139 June birthstone
- 140 Paper quantity
- 141 Stink
- 142 Prior to, to Prior

- 5 Part of NATO
- 6 Hayes of westerns
- 7 Crafter's need
- 8 Publisher
- 9 Ginger
- 10 Security grp.
- 11 Couldn't stand
- 12 Canonized
- 13 King's "Salem's --"
- 14 Motionless
- 15 "Man" ('78 song)
- 16 Singer John
- 18 Farm sight
- 21 Directionless
- 23 Native Peruvian
- 24 Yarn
- 29 Singer Chris
- 32 Soho streetcar
- 33 Carson's successor
- 35 Particle
- 36 AMEX rival
- 37 Scacchi of "The Player"
- 38 Seascape painter
- 40 Cisco's chum
- 42 Pin
- 43 The Capades
- 44 Einstein's chair?
- 46 New Deal

- agcy.
- 48 Convent wear
- 50 Dentist's fee?
- 51 Vestige
- 53 Geologic division
- 55 Cook
- 57 Make chair legs
- 59 Chilly powder?
- 61 Social worker?
- 64 Swerve
- 66 Word with pork or karate
- 67 Toast start
- 69 Dietary abbr.
- 70 TV's "Hearts --"
- 73 Big party
- 74 Cary of "The Princess Bride"
- 76 Bit of a beach?
- 77 Leisurely, to Leoncavallo
- 78 Team scream
- 84 Palm oil?
- 86 Lloyd Webber musical
- 87 Principle
- 89 Booker T.'s group
- 91 Billy Williams
- 92 Fancy planter
- 95 Slope

- 96 Cain's victim
- 98 -- breve
- 99 Bring up
- 102 Gauguin setting
- 104 Feminist Gloria
- 108 Pie ingredient?
- 110 Greek sandwich
- 112 Neighbor of Turkey
- 113 Variety show
- 114 Tight
- 115 Actress Berry
- 116 Slezak or Alexander
- 117 Consumer advocate
- 118 Stocking shade
- 119 Credulous
- 120 Indian instrument
- 124 Way over yonder
- 126 Director
- 128 Roller-coaster unit
- 129 Under the weather
- 131 Hook's mate
- 132 Southern constellation
- 133 Scottish refusal
- 134 Annoy



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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. TELEVISION: What was the name of the airline company whose plane crashed in the television series "Lost"?
- 2. POLITICS: Who is the only person in U.S. history to serve as governor of two different states?
- 3. GEOGRAPHY: In what U.S. state would you find Fort Donelson?

- 4. BIBLE: What famous biblical character survived a night in a den of lions?
- 5. HUMAN ANATOMY: What is the liquid part of blood called?
- 6. NICKNAMES: What is the nickname of the Indianapolis

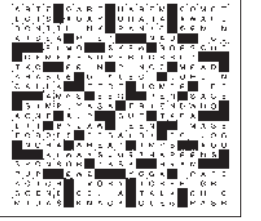
- 7. MOVIES: Who wrote the story that was eventually made into the animated film "The Iron Giant"?
- 8. LITERATURE: The character of Mercutio appears in which of Shakespeare's plays?

- 9. COMICS: Who was "Peanuts" character Charlie Brown's favorite baseball player?
- 10. INVENTIONS: Who invented the non-stick substance called Teflon?

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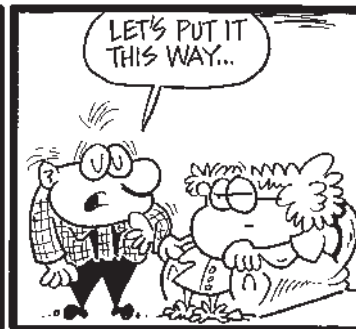
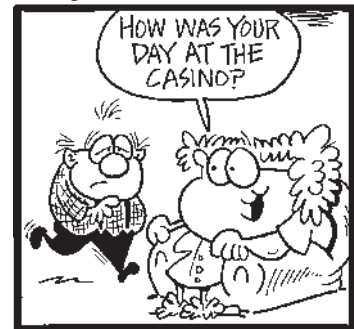
- 10. Dr. Roy Plunkett
- 9. Joe Shabotnik
- 8. Romeo and Juliet
- 7. Ted Hughes, British poet laureate
- 6. The Brickyard
- 5. Plasma
- 4. Daniel
- 3. Tennessee
- 2. Sam Houston, governor of Texas
- 1. Oceanic Airlines

Saturday's Answers



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Stricker ties record with 63 on wild start at PGA



JOHNS CREEK, Ga. (AP)—Steve Stricker stood a mere 10 feet

away from the lowest round ever in a major, a captivating moment at any other championship. Not this one.

Not with U.S. Open champion Rory McIlroy, the favorite at this PGA, trying to blast a 7-iron through a tree root. He injured his wrist so badly that he thought of quitting, yet somehow managed an even-par 70 despite not being able to hang onto the club with both hands.

And not with Tiger Woods looking like a 14-time major champion for five holes, only to finish 14 shots out of the lead after stumbling through the sand and posting a 77, his second-worst score ever in a major.

Already a memorable year in the majors, it looks like the PGA Championship wants a piece of the action.

On a sweat-stained Thursday at Atlanta Athletic Club, Stricker became the 11th player in PGA Championship history to shoot 63. He opened with three straight birdies and kept right on going until he stood on the cusp of history without even knowing it.

Only after his birdie putt for 62 slid by the cup did his caddie, Jimmy Johnson, tell him that it was for the record in a major.

"It never really registered," Stricker said. "I was just trying to make a birdie and finish 8 under, and I really was concentrating on the putt, but never thought about the history part of it."

He never thought he could be atop the leaderboard, either. After three days of practice on the 7,467-yard course—the longest par 70 ever at a major—Stricker didn't have a good feeling about his chances. His money would have been on his Wisconsin neighbor, Jerry Kelly, and he wasn't too far off.

Kelly had a career-best 65 in the PGA Championship and was two shots behind. Completing the American foursome atop the leaderboard was former PGA champion Shaun Micheel at 66, and Scott Verplank with a 67, perhaps the biggest surprise of the day because Verplank has been battling a wrist injury.

For the longest time, it looked as though he would have company in physical therapy.

The 22-year-old McIlroy showed his age, if not his fearless style, by taking a shot out of the left rough on the third hole, even though his ball sat squarely behind a 2-inch wide tree root. He let the club fly from his hands on contact, but it was too late.

The ball only went about 20 yards behind more trees, and McIlroy immediately began shaking his right hand. Before long, he noticed swelling by the wrist, and a throbbing that stretched all the day



Steve Stricker acknowledges the crowd after finishing his opening round at the PGA Championship golf tournament Thursday, Aug. 11, 2011, at the Atlanta Athletic Club in Johns Creek, Ga. Stricker finished the first round with a 7-under par 63.

up to his shoulder.

"It was dangerous," McIlroy conceded. "In hindsight, it would have been better to chip out sideways. I still made 5. Yeah, it was a shot that I felt like, if I took it on and pulled it off, it could have saved me a shot."

It nearly cost him the rest of the week.

McIlroy put an ice compress on his wrist, then summoned a physical therapist. He thought about withdrawing, but pressed

on, flinching and flexing his wrist and making just enough putts for a remarkable round of 70.

He was scheduled for tests Thursday night, but felt confident about playing the second round if he could be assured he couldn't do anything to make it worse.

The only injury to Woods was to his psyche.

He was 3 under through five holes, including a 5-wood from pine straw over a mound and under a tree that set up birdie on

the par-5 12th hole. But after a 4-iron into the water on the par-3 15th, he came undone.

Woods made three double bogeys over the next 10 holes, and wound up in a dozen bunkers. One last bogey gave him his second-highest score in a major, behind the 81 he shot at Muirfield in the 2002 British Open when it was wet and windy. This day was simply steamy, which described Woods' mood after a round that got away.

"I'm not down," he said.

"I'm really angry right now. There's a lot of words I could use beyond that."

He attributed the shocking turnaround to ditching mechanics and trying to play as though his swing changes were coming naturally. A 13-hole train wreck showed otherwise.

"Got off to a great start today, was 3 under early, was having mechanical thoughts through those holes ... and I thought, 'I can let it go' and play by instinct and feel," he said. "And it just screwed up my whole round. I'm not at that point where I can do that yet."

For being such a long course,

it didn't feel that way. The PGA of America moved up several tees, and temperatures in the 90s enabled the ball to travel even farther.

Stricker led 22 players who broke par, although Atlanta Athletic Club doled out its share of punishment. No one suffered quite like Ryo Ishikawa, the 19-year-old from Japan who was coming off his best finish in America last week at Firestone, where he tied for fourth. He had a career-high 85, with six balls in the water.

Eight other players shot in the 80s, including former U.S. Open champion Lucas Glover.

Too flush, too mechanical or just plain lost for Woods

JOHNS CREEK, Ga. (AP)—The excuse at last week's tournament was that he was hitting it too flush. When this one began, Tiger Woods said he was too mechanical. Let's try lost.

It's no longer about playing up to the standard he once set. Since slinking back into the game after a self-inflicted scandal, then battling leg injuries, Woods has been competitive on no more than a handful of occasions. He can't stop spraying his drives, his short game isn't good enough to save him—especially from greenside bunkers—and he isn't making putts. In his opening round at the PGA Championship, that totaled up to a 7-over 77.

To those who expected Woods to come back the way Michael Jordan did after revelations of late-night gambling escapades during the NBA playoffs almost two decades ago—by dropping 55 points on the Knicks the next night, en route to yet another NBA championship—quit holding your breath. Right now, he looks more like Jordan in a Washington Wizards jersey.

"I'm not down. I'm really angry right now," Woods said Thursday, both hands gripping the lectern he stood behind. "There's a lot of words I could use beyond that."

Woods has tried changing his swing, his coach and, most

recently, his caddie. On this day he started 3 under through the first five holes focused on what he called "mechanical thoughts"—shorthand for the swing changes he and coach Sean Foley have been working on. For reasons he didn't bother to explain, Woods said he shifted his focus to playing the way he used to. He proceeded to play the next 13 holes in 10 over.

"I thought, 'I can let it go,' and play by instinct and feel," he said. "And it just screwed up my whole round. I'm not at that point where I can do that yet."

Woods is not just playing like all those guys he used to treat as extras in the background of his movie; he sounds like them, too. He says he's never far from a breakthrough, from climbing back to the lofty position he once held. The numbers say otherwise. Since 2009, he's dropped more than 100 places in total driving (a measure combining distance and accuracy), sand saves and avoiding three putts.

Yet it's worth remembering that when Woods segued from his first pro coach, Butch Harmon, to Hank Haney, he shot back up the charts. Despite scant evidence to back him up, Woods is certain he will again with Foley, who's new-age approach to the swing involves treating a student's psyche as much as a tendency to lift the head.

London Olympic chief: Games are in good shape



LONDON (AP)—After days of silence while images of fires, looting and riots

were beamed across screens around the world, the chief organizer of the London Olympics finally spoke and essentially said: The state of the games is fine.

Sebastian Coe, an Olympic great and former Parliament member, said Thursday he has conferred with IOC President Jacques Rogge and other sports leaders as the mayhem in England provided a jarring counter-

point to a showpiece event that will be held in less than a year. He said they assured him the image of the Olympics would not be scarred by the violence.

"They know that things from time to time come out of left field in cities," Coe said at Wembley Arena, where the world badminton championships are serving as a test event for next year's Olympics. "Effectively within two days we had that under control."

Coe stressed that the local organizing committee was learning from what happened.

"Over the next year we will continue our contingency plans," Coe said. "They will deal with all sorts of things, including public disorder."

The riots began in the Tottenham neighborhood Saturday less than two weeks after London celebrated the one-year countdown to the opening of the games on July 27, 2012. They soon spread to other parts of London and to other cities, forcing Prime Minister David Cameron to cut short his summer vacation in Italy.

Although several soccer

games, including England's match with the Netherlands, have been canceled or postponed because of the four days of unrest, Olympic test events have gone ahead with few problems.

The badminton worlds in northwest London have been unaffected, but the first day of the beach volleyball competition at Horse Guards Parade in central London on Tuesday was stopped a few hours early to allow everyone to get home before dark.

Other test events this week include a marathon swimming competition at Hyde Park on

Saturday and a cycling road race through the streets of London on Sunday.

The closest the violence came to the Olympic Park was on Monday when rioting spread to Hackney, about 4 miles (6.5 kilometers) from the site that includes the main Olympic Stadium and other key venues.

"I am neither sanguine nor cavalier about the disfiguring images which were beamed around the world," Coe said. "But at the same time we have had test events up and running quickly."

Cano lifts Yankees past Angels, 6-5



NEW YORK (AP)—Robinson Cano hit a grand slam after Maicer Izturis' two-out error in the seventh inning and the New York Yankees overcame another shaky performance by Mariano Rivera to beat the Los Angeles Angels 6-5 Thursday.

Rivera gave up a three-run homer to pinch-hitter Russell Branyan (notes) on his first pitch in the ninth before getting two outs for his 30th save.

Bobby Abreu connected against Rivera on Tuesday night for the first homer off the All-Star closer at Yankee Stadium since May 16, 2010. Rivera also faltered at Boston on Sunday night.

Curtis Granderson followed his two double-play balls with a tying two-run homer in the sixth for the Yankees.

Fernando Rodney (2-4) gave up two walks in the seventh for the Angels, who lost just their second series in the last 16 (13-2-1).

Derek Jeter had three singles—two infield hits—and a walk to raise his average in day games to .352 (38 for 108). Rafael Soriano (2-1) got the win.

Rafael Soriano (2-1) allowed his first baserunner—Bobby Wilson's one-out single—since returning from the disabled list July 29 in the seventh. He extended his scoreless stretch to six innings by getting two flyouts after the hit.

Cory Wade gave up two one-out hits in the ninth before giving way for Rivera.

New York had runners on base in each of the first four innings, with Brett Gardner advancing to third base with one out in the third. But Tyler Chatwood got inning-ending double plays from Granderson in the first and third, each coming after Jeter singled.

Granderson came through after Jeter's infield hit in the sixth, though. He lofted Chatwood's pitch on a high arc and right fielder Torii Hunter ranged back and waited to see if the ball would clear the wall. It did, and Granderson had his fourth homer in the series.

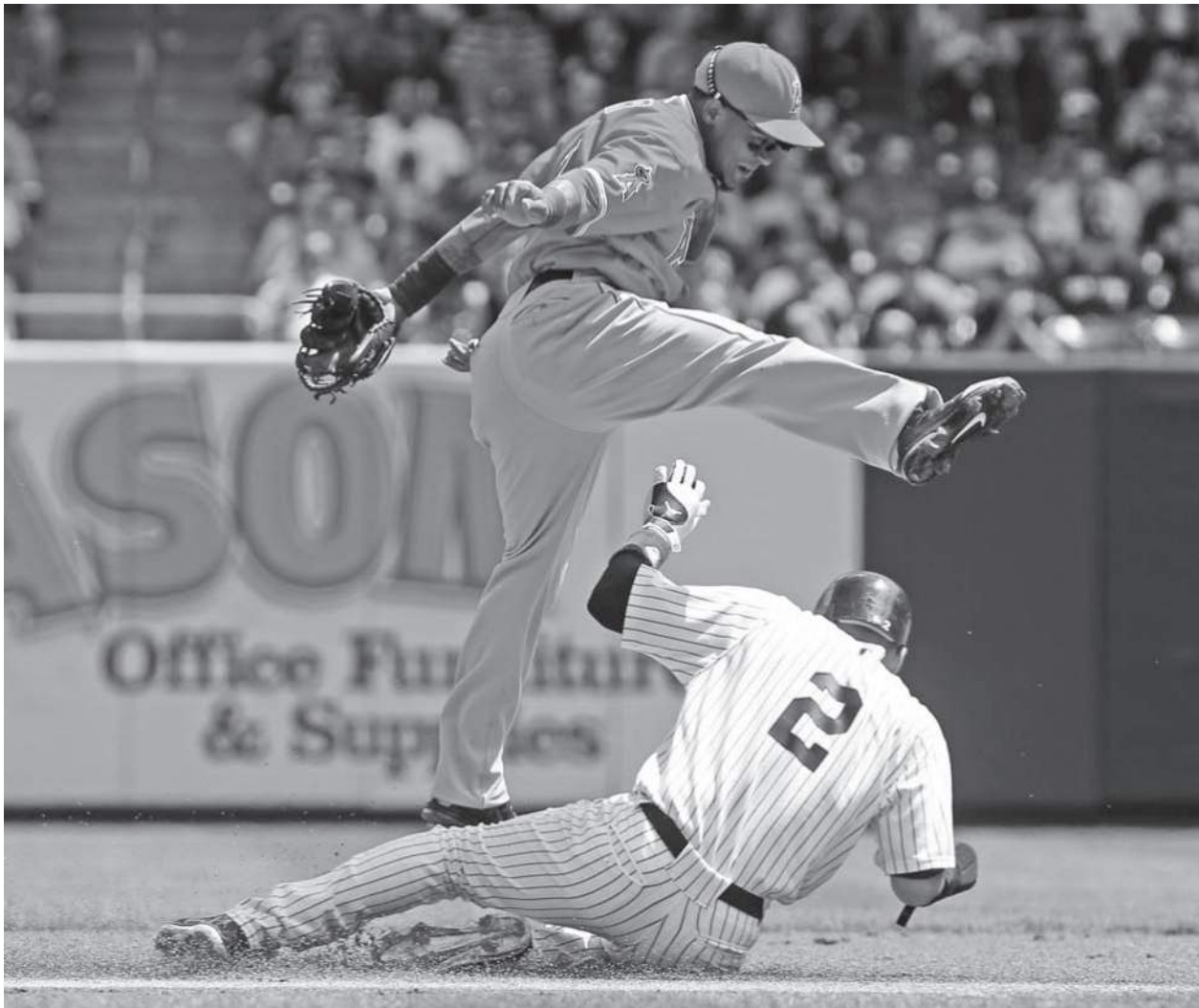
"An out all the way," Granderson said he thought of the flyball.

Erick Aybar snapped a 0-for-30 skid with a slow roller that made it about halfway up the third-base line for a single. Callaspo then turned on a 2-2 pitch, pulling it into the second deck down the right field line for a 2-0 lead.

Colon gave up two runs and five hits against his former team. He walked two and struck out three.

Tigers 4, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Justin Verlander gave Detroit exactly what it needed, becoming baseball's first 17-game winner as the division-leading Tigers avoided be-



Los Angeles Angels' Erick Aybar, top, jumps out of the way of New York Yankees' Derek Jeter who was trying to break up a double play on a ball hit by Yankees' Curtis Granderson in the first inning of a Major League Baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York, Thursday, Aug. 11, 2011. The Angels got the double play to end the inning.

ing swept by Cleveland and opened a three-game lead over the Indians in the AL Central.

Verlander (17-5) allowed three hits and struck out 10 in seven innings to earn career win No. 100 as the Tigers ended a 13-game losing streak in Cleveland. He was also on the mound for Detroit's previous win at Progressive Field on May 8, 2010.

Rays 4, Royals 1

In Florida, Jeff Niemann won his sixth consecutive decision, Ben Zobrist had a two-run triple and Tampa Bay completed a four-game sweep.

Niemann (7-4) allowed one run and nine hits over 6 1-3 innings. The right-hander is 6-0 in nine starts since returning from a strained lower back.

The Rays' first four-game home sweep since July 28-31, 2005—also against Kansas City—included an 8-7 win Wednesday night in which Tampa Bay scored five times in the ninth.

Athletics 10, Blue Jays 3

In Toronto, Conor Jackson drove in

three runs and Hideki Matsui had four hits, leading the Athletics to the victory.

Oakland failed to hit a home run for the first time in nine games but still finished with its most runs since scoring 13 against Tampa Bay on July 27.

Matsui had a 15-game hitting streak snapped Tuesday and was hitless in 10 at-bats before hitting an RBI single in the third. He grounded out in the fourth but singled again in the sixth, seventh and ninth to finish 4 for 6. Matsui, who was hitting .209 at the All Star break, has raised his average to .268.

White Sox 6, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Mark Buehrle pitched eight solid innings, Alexei Ramirez homered in a four-run first inning, and the Chicago White Sox cruised past the Baltimore Orioles.

Buehrle (10-5) gave up three runs and six hits, struck out six and walked none. The left-hander has allowed three runs or fewer in 18 straight starts, matching the club record set by Frank Smith in 1909, the White

Sox said with research by the Elias Sports Bureau.

Buehrle is 4-0 in his last five starts, and his run of 11 straight seasons with at least 10 wins is a franchise record.

Sergio Santos worked a perfect ninth for his 25th save. He set a major league record by starting the season with 25 straight scoreless appearances on the road, breaking the mark set by Mariano Rivera in 2005.

Cardinals 5, Brewers 2

In St. Louis, Albert Pujols kicked off a 4-for-4 night with a solo homer and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Milwaukee Brewers 5-2 on Thursday to avoid a three-game sweep.

St. Louis pulled within four games of NL Central-leading Milwaukee, which has won 13 of 15. The Cardinals are the only team to beat the Brewers during their hot streak.

Pujols entered with just five hits in 42 at-bats against the Brewers. He ended the slide with a drive in the first against Yovani Gallardo (13-8), tying him with teammate Lance

Berkman (notes) for the National League lead with 28 homers.

Diamondbacks 8, Astros 5, 10 innings

In Phoenix, Chris Young hit a game-ending three-run homer in the 10th inning, sending Arizona to the dramatic win.

Houston was one strike away from wrapping up a 5-3 victory before pinch-hitter Paul Goldschmidt belted a tying two-run shot off Mark Melancon for his second career homer.

Ryan Roberts and Justin Upton led off the 10th with consecutive singles off Jeff Fulchino (1-4). Sergio Escalona came in and retired Miguel Montero before Young hit a drive to left for his sixth career game-ending homer.

Reds 2, Rockies 1

In Cincinnati, Johnny Cueto and two relievers made a pair of first-inning runs stand up and Cincinnati salvaged a split of its four-game series against Colorado.

Cueto, hampered by an upset stomach while pitching a season-low 3 2-3 innings in his last start at Wrigley Field, bounced back to throw three-hit ball for seven shutout innings. He took over the NL ERA lead, lowering his mark from 2.06 to 1.94.

Cueto (8-5) struck out a season-high nine, including Carlos Gonzalez with the bases loaded to end the fifth inning.

Padres 3, Mets 2

In New York, Cameron Maybin homered and stole two bases before scoring the tiebreaking run on an error by substitute shortstop Ruben Tejada, rallying the Padres to a split of their four-game series against the Mets.

Heath Bell pitched a perfect ninth and the last-place Padres improved to 5-2 on a 10-game trip that takes them to Cincinnati this weekend.

Lucas Duda hit a two-run double for the Mets, who finished 3-6 on a disappointing homestand. New York has lost eight of 11 overall.

Cubs 4, Nationals 3

In Chicago, Aramis Ramirez and Carlos Pena hit back-to-back homers to lead the Cubs to the victory.

Ramirez's two-run shot in the seventh was his 21st of the season, and gave him 16 homers since June 25, tops in the major leagues in that stretch.

Pena followed Ramirez with a drive that curled around the pole in right field and landed on Sheffield Avenue, putting the Cubs up 4-1.

Ryan Dempster (10-8) limited Washington to a first-inning home run by Ryan Zimmerman and went seven innings, allowing three hits.

Rodman, Class of '11 to enter hoops Hall of Fame



SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—The acknowledgement list could only belong to Dennis Rodman.

There were coaches Phil Jackson and fellow inductee Tex Winter. He mentioned teammate Michael Jordan, along with rockers Eddie Vedder and Motley Crue. And he thanked that guy Stern who's coming to see him Friday night.

That's Howard Stern, not the NBA commissioner.

Rodman's uncommon blend of basketball and entertainment has arrived

at the sport's birthplace, where he will be enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame on Friday as part of the 10-person class of 2011.

"I really didn't play the game to be in the Hall of Fame. That wasn't my job," Rodman said. "My job was to go out there and win ballgames, have a good time and take care of my family. As long as the people had a good time, that was my main objective."

Dressed in all black, wearing sunglasses, an Ed Hardy tattooing hat and a scarf that read "The Worm, HOF '11" on the inside, the five-time NBA champion was the center of attention

during Thursday's news conferences.

Exactly the way he likes it.

"I just love living life free. And for me to shine, I shine every damn day," Rodman said. "This is for other people here that don't get to see these famous people that's going to come in this building tomorrow."

Dream Teamer and two-time Olympic gold medalist Chris Mullin is the other headline name in the class, though much of the focus was on Rodman. Looking toward him, Stanford women's coach Tara VanDerveer joked she was so excited she was "gonna go out and get a tattoo."

VanDerveer, who has led Stanford to two national championships and won more than 800 games, joins Winter and Division II Philadelphia University coach Herb Magee, the career leader at the collegiate level with more than 900 wins, as the coaches being enshrined. Jackson will present both Rodman and Winter, whose triangle offense was used by Jackson to build dynasties in Chicago and Los Angeles.

"I don't know what's more shocking, that they didn't put Tex in 30 years ago, or they didn't make Dennis wait another 30 years," said Win-

ter's son, Chris.

Eight-time NBA champion Tom "Satch" Sanders, big men Artis Gilmore and Arvydas Sabonis; the late Reece "Goose" Tatum of the Harlem Globetrotters, and women's star Teresa Edwards, who won five Olympic medals - four golds - and is entering her fifth Hall of Fame, also will be honored at Symphony Hall.

None of their speeches figures to be like Rodman's, whose seven straight rebounding titles set an NBA record and who won 70 percent of the games he played in. He wouldn't reveal what he planned to say, though did allow that he's listened to Pearl Jam as motivation for 20 years and that Vedder was an inspiration.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	72	44	.621	—
New York	71	45	.612	1
Tampa Bay	63	54	.538	9 1/2
Toronto	59	58	.504	13 1/2
Baltimore	45	70	.391	26 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	62	55	.530	—
Cleveland	58	57	.504	3
Chicago	58	59	.496	4
Minnesota	52	65	.444	10
Kansas City	49	69	.415	13 1/2

West Division

Texas	66	52	.559	—
Los Angeles	64	54	.542	2
Oakland	53	64	.453	12 1/2
Seattle	50	66	.431	15

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	77	40	.658	—
Atlanta	69	49	.585	8 1/2
New York	58	59	.496	19
Washington	56	61	.479	21
Florida	55	62	.470	22

Central Division

Milwaukee	67	51	.568	—
St. Louis	63	55	.534	4
Cincinnati	57	61	.483	10
Pittsburgh	56	60	.483	10
Chicago	51	67	.432	16
Houston	38	80	.322	29

West Division

Arizona	65	53	.551	—
San Francisco	64	54	.542	1
Colorado	55	64	.462	10 1/2
Los Angeles	52	64	.448	12
San Diego	53	66	.445	12 1/2

Yesterday's Games

San Diego 3, N.Y. Mets 2
Cincinnati 2, Colorado 1
Chicago Cubs 4, Washington 3
St. Louis 5, Milwaukee 2
Arizona 8, Houston 5, 10 innings
Tampa Bay 4, Kansas City 1
Oakland 10, Toronto 3
N.Y. Yankees 6, L.A. Angels 5
Chicago White Sox 6, Baltimore 3
Detroit 4, Cleveland 3

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

JOHNS CREEK, Georgia (AP) — Scores Thursday after the opening round of the PGA Championship at the Atlanta Athletic Club's 7,463-yard, par-70 Highlands Course:

FIRST ROUND

Steve Stricker	33-30—63
Jerry Kelly	33-32—65
Shaun Micheel	32-34—66
Scott Verplank	31-36—67
Brendon de Jonge	34-34—68
Matteo Manassero	33-35—68
Davis Love III	34-34—68
John Senden	33-35—68
Bill Haas	35-33—68
Brandt Jobe	34-34—68
Anders Hansen	35-33—68
Simon Dyson	35-33—68
Bob Sowards	35-34—69
Adam Scott	35-34—69
Stewart Cink	32-37—69
Brendan Steele	34-35—69
Brian Davis	34-35—69
Miguel Angel Jimenez	35-34—69
Mark Wilson	35-34—69
Trevor Immelman	36-33—69
D.A. Points	33-36—69
Ricky Barnes	34-35—69
Gary Woodland	35-35—70
Jason Dufner	38-32—70
Luke Donald	36-34—70
Nick Watney	34-36—70
K.J. Choi	36-34—70
Robert Garrigus	36-34—70
Alexander Noren	33-37—70
Pablo Larrazabal	35-35—70
Jhonattan Vegas	34-36—70
Robert Karlsson	36-34—70
Rory McIlroy	35-35—70
Camilo Villegas	35-35—70
Michael Bradley	35-35—70
Ross Fisher	38-33—71
Phil Mickelson	35-36—71
Spencer Levin	36-35—71
Peter Hanson	34-37—71
Keegan Bradley	38-33—71
Bill Lunde	35-36—71
Jim Furyk	34-37—71
Steve Marino	34-37—71
Johan Edfors	35-36—71
Johnson Wagner	37-34—71
Y.E. Yang	36-35—71
Justin Rose	35-36—71
Ryan Palmer	38-33—71
Charl Schwartzel	36-35—71
Matt Kuchar	33-38—71
Lee Westwood	37-34—71
Jason Day	34-37—71

Zach Johnson	35-36—71
Jonathan Byrd	37-34—71
Ben Crane	35-36—71
Sean O'Hair	33-38—71
Scott Piercy	36-35—71
Seung-yul Noh	35-36—71
John Rollins	36-36—72
Tetsuji Hiratsuka	35-37—72
Andres Romero	34-38—72
Angel Cabrera	35-37—72
David Toms	37-35—72
Paul Casey	36-36—72
Charles Howell III	35-37—72
Stuart Smith	35-37—72
David Horsey	37-35—72
Chris Kirk	37-35—72
Brian Gay	34-38—72
Martin Kaymer	37-35—72
Sergio Garcia	35-37—72
Hunter Mahan	38-34—72
Robert Allenby	38-34—72
Harrison Frazar	34-38—72
Francesco Molinari	35-37—72
Steve Scheitter	36-36—72
Kevin Na	35-37—72
Charlie Wi	36-37—73
Kevin Streelman	36-37—73
Martin Laird	36-37—73
Alvaro Quiros	38-35—73
Padraig Harrington	36-37—73
Bo Van Pelt	36-37—73
Scott Stallings	36-37—73
Mark Brooks	37-36—73
Brad Lardon	39-34—73
Yuta Ikeda	38-35—73
Mike Small	36-37—73
Hiroynuki Fujita	38-35—73
Rory Sabbatini	36-37—73
Steve Elkington	37-36—73
K.T. Kim	35-38—73
Stephen Gallacher	35-39—74
Bubba Watson	42-32—74
Ian Poulter	38-36—74
Thomas Bjorn	35-39—74
Sean Dougherty	37-37—74
J.J. Henry	35-39—74
Fredrik Andersson Hed	35-39—74
Anthony Kim	40-34—74
Ernie Els	37-37—74
Brandt Snedeker	38-36—74
Rickie Fowler	40-34—74
Rich Beem	33-41—74
Bryce Molder	36-38—74
Graeme McDowell	37-37—74
Cameron Tringale	38-36—74
Ryan Moore	39-36—75
Edoardo Molinari	40-35—75
Jeff Overton	36-39—75
Jeff Sorenson	37-38—75
Webb Simpson	37-38—75
Marty Jertson	38-37—75
Charley Hoffman	37-38—75
Ryuji Imada	36-39—75
Dustin Johnson	38-37—75
Retief Goosen	37-38—75
Geoff Ogilvy	40-35—75
Craig Stevens	40-36—76
Vijay Singh	35-41—76
David Hutsell	37-39—76
Gregory Bourdy	37-39—76
Louis Oosthuizen	37-39—76
Tom Gillis	35-41—76
Thomas Aiken	38-38—76
Fredrik Jacobson	36-40—76
Raphael Jacquelin	38-38—76
Jeff Coston	37-39—76
Mike Northern	38-39—77
Faber Jamerson	36-41—77
Wenchong Liang	40-37—77
Tiger Woods	40-37—77
John Daly	38-39—77
Jerry Pate	38-39—77
Aaron Baddeley	37-40—77
Jamie Donaldson	35-42—77
D.J. Trahan	36-41—77
Brendan Jones	38-40—78
Arjun Atwal	35-43—78
Rob Moss	40-38—78
Dan Olsen	38-40—78
Jose Maria Olazabal	38-40—78
Larry Nelson	41-37—78
Darren Clarke	38-40—78
Robert McClellan	40-38—78
Rocco Mediate	39-40—79
Richard Green	39-40—79
J.B. Holmes	38-42—80
Scott Erdmann	37-43—80
Lucas Glover	42-38—80
Heath Slocum	37-43—80
Daniel Balin	41-40—81
Tommy Gainey	38-43—81
Todd Camplin	43-39—82
Ryo Ishikawa	40-45—85
Brian Cairns	39-46—85

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

UFO STANDINGS

Visminda/Satbahi	3	0
Bayani/Mobil	3	0
Namfrel/Proa	1	0
UPAA/Hoopaholiss	2	1
Cabalen/Noni	1	1
Ali'i Konflikt	1	2
NMBA/Mixed Blood	1	2
MDX/Blue Haus	0	3
Cavite/Andok's	0	3

POJC

From Page 28

After their semis games Thursday morning, the two CNMI netters collided for the championship in the afternoon with Ackerman still had enough juice to play back-to-back games and beat Rastguiry.

In the boys U12 division, Carl Dela Cruz lost in the semifinals, but still finished at the No. 3 spot in the 12-player group.

Dela Cruz bowed to Pool A top finisher Tiernan Breen of Fiji, 6-3, 6-4. The Commonwealth netter was then forced to play in the battle for third and needed three sets to thwart Tonga's Tei Ki Tongi. Dela Cruz dropped the opening set, 4-6, but saved the win and made it to the Top 3 after sweeping the last two sets, 6-3, 6-0. Tahiti's Michael Emery won the U12 division after beating Breen, 6-2, 6-0.

In the boys U15 division, Christian

Miller boosted his chances to finish in the No. 1 spot in his last competition in this age group after advancing to the finals.

Miller notched twin wins on Thursday to book a finals berth in the boys U15 singles. He defeated Pool D top finisher Teba Tito of Kiribati in the quarterfinals, 6-3, 6-3, and then slipped past the Cook Island's Tamarua Payne in the semifinals in three sets, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Miller's finals foe was Tahiti's Heve Kelley and they were scheduled to square off for the championships yesterday. Kelley advanced to the finals after beating the CNMI's Jake Lee, 6-0, 6-1, and New Caledonia's Celestin Tisserant, 6-3, 6-3.

In the girls U15, Mikayla Lopez failed on her finals bid after losing to Pool A top finisher Alesi Molotii of Tonga in the semifinals. Lopez got off to a strong start in the playoffs, winning the first set, 6-1, but could not keep her

momentum, as Molotii stole the last two sets for the finals berth, 6-1, 6-4.

Lopez fell to fourth place in the 12-player field, as she also dropped her consolation game against New Caledonia's Yaelle Honakolo, 2-6, 1-6. Lopez's fellow U15 player, Melody Johnson, finished ninth, prevailing in her last game against Guam's Camdyn Nadler, 1-6, 6-1, 6-3.

In the U18 division, sisters Thea and Theecel Minor placed fifth and ninth, respectively, while Rafael Jones finished in the Top 4. Thea won her last two games for the No. 5 spot, downing American Samoa's Leilani Duchnak, 6-4, 6-4, and Fiji's Amanda Korinihona, 6-3, 6-3. Theecel avoided a shutout in the POJC after defeating Palau's Abigail Gbewonyo, 6-1, 1-6, 7-6 (4).

In the round robin boys U18 singles, Jones finished with a 4-3 card, winning his last game against American Samoa's Christian Duchnak, 6-1, 7-5.

DOCOMO

From Page 28

it missed its last four attempts.

Dave Sablan paced Docomo with 23 points, while John Sablan and James Villacrusis tallied 19 and 10, respectively.

Basila was the top-scorer for Noni, but had only 12 points, while Bernardo bled for 10 markers. Bernardo and the rest of Noni frontliners were clobbered by the Hoops big men inside. Abuel and other Noni shooters also struggled, as Hoops guards challenged every shot. Abuel was held to four points, while Bon Tamayo tallied only seven. Both gunners were scoreless in the fourth, while Lerio Pagarao, who made 25 in his first game, was limited to eight.

Bayani/Mobil 85, MDX/Blue Haus 82

In the first game, Bayani/Mobil rallied past MDX/Blue Haus, 85-82.

MAWATI

From Page 28

the homestretch.. Dick Tibiyan came off the bench for Cell Pro and delivered 15 points to go with the nine markers of Roy Hernandez. But besides the two, the rest of Cell Pro players went cold midway in the fourth.

Despite Cell Pro's comeback bids, Mawati kept its cool and traded baskets early in the fourth and then made seven free throws in the end to secure the win.

Salem led the field with 20 points, while Leo Itaas had 18 for Cell Pro.

Meanwhile, Joeten stretched is unbeaten streak to four after surviving iFashion in overtime, 63-59, during the second game last Tuesday.

Joeten and iFashion are in the league's Pool B and while the former remains undefeated, the latter absorbed its first loss in four games.

BUTCH

From Page 28

to, and Banzai Cliff and returning to the starting line.

The MTB race has three categories. For beginners, riders will begin at Paupau Beach and head to the dumping site road, Cowtown, and Banzai Cliff before returning to the starting line for the finish. For MTB sports riders, they will also start at Paupau, but bikers will proceed to Suicide Cliff, Kimikaze trail, turn left to Grotto, Santa Clause

The win was third in as many games for Bayani/Mobil, giving the team a share of the lead with VisMinda/Satbahi. MDX is at the cellar of the nine-team field with its dismal 0-3 record.

MDX/Blue Haus seemed headed for its first win after controlling the game in the first three quarters, but collapsed in the fourth canto.

Bayani/Mobil outgunned MDX/Blue Haus in the fourth period, 33-21, to recover from a slow start and steal the win. The Marvin Deocares-coached squad completed the come-from-behind victory after canning seven free throws in the homestretch.

Bayani/Mobil was held to three field goals in the opening canto, allowing MDX to take a 13-9 lead. MDX went on to outscore Bayani in the next two quarters to keep the driver's seat, 61-52, entering the final period. However, momentum shifted to Bayani's side in the fourth with Jun Estolas leading the team's rally.

Joeten managed a slim 10-8 edge in the opening 10 minutes, as a handful of players contributed at least one basket apiece in the first quarter.

Then Joeten pulled ahead at half-time, 28-20, as Christian Devero, James Sablan, and Rodney Sacramento delivered four points apiece in the second period. Joeten pressed ahead in the third quarter, 46-36, thanks to a couple of three-pointers.

However, iFashion stepped up in the fourth canto and knotted the match at 56-all at the end of regulation. iFashion's Ryan Odicta led the charge in the fouth with seven points, five came from the free throw line.

In the extra period, Joeten's defense regrouped, containing iFashion to just three points, while it buried five pressured free throws to seal the victory.

Sacramento finished with a game-high 16 markers, besting iFashion's Odicta by a point.

trail, dumping site, and past the Last Command Post before going back to Paupau. In the MTB open division, bikers will also go to the Suicide Cliff and Kimikaze trail after leaving Paupau, but instead of turning left to Grotto, they will head to Bird Islands, Calabera and Radar roads up to the one million gallon tank, turn left to Marianas Country Club road, and turn left to the main road going back to the starting line.

For the run race, there will be two categories, the 5K and 8K. The shorter course will begin at Paupau and runners

The Bayani guard scored 15 of his 30 points in the final period.

First Game

Bayani/Mobil 85 — Estolas 30, Lizama 12, Gamboa 12, Ruluked 6, De Guzman 6, Sharry 6, Gapor 2, Moises 2, Factor 1.

MDX/Blue Haus 82 — Lauron 22, Babauta 16, Tenorio 15, Johanes 10, Z. Diaz 8, Lisua 8, Palacios 3.

Scoring by quarters: 9-13, 32-37, 52-61, 85-82.

Second Game

UPAA/Docomo Hoopaholics 81 — D. Sablan 23, J. Sablan 19, Villacrusis 10, Lee 8, Fitial 7, Mendez 2, Manibusan 2, Palacios 2.

Cabalen/Noni 65 — Basila 12, Bernardo 10, Pagarao 8, Tamayo 7, Yabut 7, Demapan 6, Abuel 4, Pantaleon 3, David 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-15, 29-24, 52-48, 81-65.

TUESDAY

Joeten 63 — Sacramento 16, Casa-buena 11, Devero 7, J Sablan 7, C. Camacho 5, Umali 4, S. Fernandez 4, Cruz 2, R. Fernandez 2, Tankoy 2.

iFashion 69 — Odicta 15, Mi. Achas 11, Fernando 10, Villanueva 10, Bautista 7, Lapuz 2, R. Herrera 2, Delos Reyes 2.

Scoring by quarters: 10-8, 28-20, 46-36, 56-56, 63-59 (OT)

THURSDAY

Mawati 74 — Salem 20, Dela Cruz 15, Taractac 8, Corotan 8, Enriquez 7, Reyes 6, V. Sablan 5, B. Dalusong 4, Avila 2, Tiribio 2, D. Dalusong 1, Rena 1.

Cell Pro 71 — L. Itaas18, Hernandez 17, J. Norita 14, Ro. Herrera 11, Dulfo 6, Rotap 3, Tibayan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-12, 39-27, 52-46, 74-71.

will head to the baseball field and back to Paupau. For the 8K run, participants must go to as far as the Last Command Post and return to Paupau.

Funds that will be raised in the weekend competition will be used to help send Butch Sublemente to Hawaii in October for the 2011 XTERRA World Championship. He qualified for XTERRA World after topping his age group (35 to 39) in the 2011 XTERRA Saipan Championship.

For more information, contact Sublemente at 233-3242 or 789-4438.



Stricker ties record
with 63 on wild
start at PGA

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Cano lifts Yankees
past Angels, 6-5

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28 SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Ackerman reigns in POJC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tammy Ackerman continued to have an impressive 2011 season after prevailing in the all-CNMI singles finals in the U12 division of the 2011 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Lautoka, Fiji, last Thursday.



Ackerman, winner of various local competitions in her age group this year, defeated teammate Negahr Rastguiy in the girls U12 singles championship game, 6-2, 6-4. Ackerman advanced to the finals after stunning Pool A top finisher and then undefeated Vinda Teally of Samoa in an extended two-set semis match, 7-5, 7-5. Rastguiy assured the CNMI the 1-2 finish in the U12 when she survived Pool A second placer Kelani Chene of Tonga in three sets, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

See POJC on Page 27



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tammy Ackerman, seen here going for a return against Negahr Rastguiy in the 2011 CNMI Junior Championships in April at the AMP tennis courts, ruled the U12 singles of the 2011 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Lautoka, Fiji.

Docomo/Hoops whip Cabalen/Noni

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



UPAA/Docomo Hoopaholics booked their second win in the UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup after thumping Cabalen/Noni, 81-65, on Thursday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

The Hoops held Cabalen/Noni scoreless in the last 3:32 of the game to improve to a 2-1 record and recover from an 81-95 loss at the hands of Bayani/Mobil last week. Noni fell to an even 1-1 slate, as it failed to make a single basket and committed numerous turnovers in the last three and half minutes of the fourth canto.

Noni had its last field goal off Banjo Basila's triple and the team moved within two, 65-67, after falling behind by as much as 10 points in the final quarter, 62-52.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

UPAA/Docomo Hoopaholics' Kelvin Fitial, center, drives against Cabalen/Noni's Bart Demapan, left, and Jun Pantaleon during their game in the UFO Bud Cup caging at the TSL Sports Complex on Thursday night.

The Hoops sued for time and managed to regroup when the game resumed. Dave and John Sablan connected on clutch baskets in the ensuing plays to halt Noni's rally. On defense, the Hoops big men protected the paint effectively, forcing Cabalen to take shots from outside and miss. It did not help Noni that it also turned the ball over several times. One of them came a few seconds after Basila's triple, as Wowie Abuel fed Kae Bernardo at the baseline and the latter had butterfingers and lost the leather.

Cabalen either committed mistakes or muffed shots in the ensuing plays, while John Sablan hit a dagger, drilling a triple to bring the Hoops' lead back to double digits, 75-65, with 1:46 left on the clock.

After the trey, Cabalen/Noni inbounded the ball, but could not even bring the leather to its front court, as Dave Sablan's quick hands were there for a steal and a layup. Down by 12, 77-65, Cabalen's miseries continued as

See DOCOMO on Page 27



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

A Mawati player goes up strong to the basket against Cell Pro defenders during their game in the Blue Haus caging on Thursday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Mawati holds off Cell Pro

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mawati fended off Cell Pro's second-half rally to pull off a 74-71 win in the curtain-raiser in the 2011 Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League last Thursday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Mawati improved to a 3-2 card in Pool C, while Cell Pro dropped to a 2-3 slate.

The opening game saw Mawati build an early 19-12 lead, as Nicko Salem paced his squad with six markers in the first quarter. Then Mawati

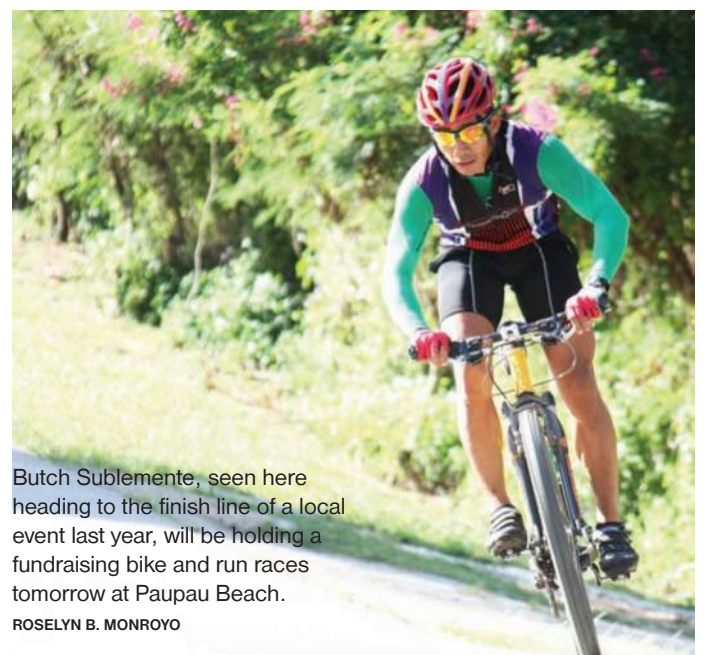
stretched the lead to double digits at the break, 39-27, as Dan Dela Cruz made it to the scoreboard, hitting six points in the second quarter.

In the second half, Cell Pro drained a pair of three-pointers early in the third quarter to chip the deficit to six, 46-52, entering the final 10 minutes of play.

Cell Pro's Josh Norita and Roger Herrera teamed up for 16 points in the surge.

Cell Pro continued its recovery in the fourth, but fell short after missing several shots in

See MAWATI on Page 27



Butch Sublemente, seen here heading to the finish line of a local event last year, will be holding a fundraising bike and run races tomorrow at Paupau Beach.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Butch fundraiser II Sunday

The Butch Journey to XTER-RA World Championship Fundraiser II will take place tomorrow at Paupau Beach.

The fundraising event will feature bike and run races in various divisions. Entrance fee is only \$10. Registration will start at 6am and all races will begin at 7:15am.

In kind prizes will be given to

winners of different races, while a brand new mountain bike will be raffled off after the event. You don't need to be present to win the bike.

The bike race will have the road and MTB divisions. The road bike category will have bikers leaving Paupau and heading to Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, Grot-

See BUTCH on Page 27